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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1989

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Make peace now, Shevardnadze urges Arabs and Israelis

Soviets warn of nuclear confrontation

CAIRO, Feb. 24, (Agencies): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze urged Arabs and Israelis to make peace now or risk a nuclear confrontation such as the one that bedeviled East and West for 40 years.

Shevardnadze also made what he called his "first critical remark about the new President of the United States," George Bush, saying Bush was trying unjustly to limit the Soviet role in the Middle East.

Warned

The Soviet minister sounded the nuclear warning in a speech to selected Egyptian political leaders a few hours before ending a four-day visit, the third leg of a high-profile regional tour to enhance Moscow's role in regional peace efforts.

In the speech, Shevardnadze warned Israel that it "has no right to deny freedom of choice to the Palestinian people." Doing so, he said, "is not strengthening but rather weak-

ening both its security as a state and the legitimacy of its own self-determination."

Shevardnadze said the Soviet Union will not resume diplomatic relations with Israel, which Moscow severed during the 1967 Middle East war, until the Jewish state accepts an international peace conference in which the PLO participates.

He met in Cairo with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, who specifically rejected the idea. In remarks afterwards to reporters, however, Arens said the Soviets had a role to play in Middle East peacemaking even without diplomatic ties with Israel, apparently reversing a long-standing Israeli position.

Asked yesterday what work could start towards an international conference if Arens would accept it, Shevardnadze said: "He did not. If he did, we could begin tomorrow."

In Cairo, Shevardnadze had separate talks with Arens and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat as well as President Mubarak and other Egyptian leaders.

Shevardnadze was in Egypt when Bush made remarks on Tuesday regarding the Soviet Union to a "limited role" in the Middle East.

Vital

"The US President said he was not concerned about the Soviet minister's tour of the region. That is basically quite right," Shevardnadze said.

"But in the end he made a qualification that I didn't like. He said the role of the Soviet Union should be limited. That is very sad because it injects an element of rivalry that is unnecessary."

Instructions

When asked to confirm that he wanted to meet Shamir, who has repeatedly vowed never to negotiate with the PLO, Arafat replied: "Definitely, because I do not have the right to choose their representatives as they do not have the right to choose our representatives."

Arafat added: "But don't forget (Israeli rightwing chief and Industry Minister Ariel) Sharon is going to kill me, there is a decision in their cabinet to kill me."

While saying neither superpower can solve all problems, Shevardnadze conceded the United States' influence in the Middle East and said it should be used to persuade Israel to move ahead in peacemaking.

"The US has a good opportunity to engage in a dialogue with the Arabs, Israel and the Soviet Union. It has the potential to help the government of Israel to formulate a new approach that takes into account the new realities," he said.

In his speech, Shevardnadze said such changed attitudes are vital.

Explosion

"Time in the Middle East is working for war rather than peace," he said. "The maintenance of the status quo leads towards explosion rather than tranquility."

Bush, met today with Egyptian President Mubarak, Jordan's King Hussein and Israeli President Chaim Herzog in Tokyo.

After the meeting with the three Middle East leaders at the US embassy, Secretary of State James Baker told reporters the US is ready to play an active role in bringing about "direct negotiations" between Israel and the Palestinians.

Baker said the leaders recognize "some opportunities exist with respect to the Middle East peace process which haven't existed before" — a reference to the new US policy of direct contact with the PLO.

In Paris, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir again ruled out any dialogue with the PLO, saying talks with Yasser Arafat would be useless.



Girls attired (from left) in Kuwaiti, Syrian, Libyan and Egyptian traditional dresses, display sweets of these countries at the show held at the Special Institute for the Handicapped. It was attended by HH the Crown Prince and Premier (photo right) (Photos by Amr Jedid)

Clerics determined to end Lebanese crisis

KUWAIT, Feb. 24, (AP): Leading clerics from Lebanon's main religious communities ended four days of talks with an Arab mediation panel and flew home yesterday after agreeing that political reforms are the key to a settlement for their country's civil war.

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, who heads the panel, told a news conference that the clerics agreed that a settlement of the 14-year-old conflict should be based on "justice, equality, preserving Lebanon's Arab identity and restoring efficiency to its (government) institutions."

The talks, he added after the pontiffs departed, produced "agreement on the principle of reforms."

Reforms

"We are truly optimistic... and we are more optimistic after what we have heard from all the religious and political leaders we have met with," he said.

He also said the Lebanese spiritual leaders were determined to bring to an end the Lebanese crisis and maintain the country's unity and sovereignty.

Christians have dominated power in Lebanon since its independence from France in 1943. Muslims, who make up 55

percent of the population of four million people want reforms that will give them an equal share of power.

The strife was compounded by the Lebanese Parliament's failure to elect a successor to outgoing President Amin Gemayel five months ago.

Attending the meetings were: Maronite Patriarch Butros Sfeir; Roman Catholic Patriarch Maximos Hakim; Vice-President of the Supreme Shiite Muslim Council, Sheikh Mohammed Mehdi Shamseddine; Sunni Muslim Grand Mufti, Sheikh Hassan Khaled; the supreme religious judge of the Druze community, Sheikh Mursel Nasr and the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch, Ignatius Hazim.

In a joint statement before they departed Kuwait, the clerics expressed hope that "the spirit of national solidarity, understanding and cordiality" which prevailed during their meeting in Kuwait would also prevail among the country's leaders, both politicians and militia chiefs.

"While renewing confidence in the Arab committee, we urge all Lebanese leaders to utilize this opportunity for salvaging Lebanon by responding to the good offices of the panel," the

statement said.

The panel includes the foreign ministers of Tunisia, Algeria, Sudan, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, as well as the Arab League Secretary-General Chedli Klibi.

In the name of the panel, Sheikh Sabah appealed "to the Lebanese people with all its leaderships, sects and individuals to understand the role of the committee... and respond to its good offices."

He added: "The panel sees that there is an historic opportunity... to salvage Lebanon. We appeal to all Lebanese parties to grab it."

Asked about future plans, he said: "In the near future, the panel will establish contacts with all other Lebanese sides."

The Shiite cleric, Shamseddine, said the Kuwait meetings had realized "a big achievement toward the settlement of the Lebanese crisis."

He added: "We have surmounted many complications which previously governed some attitudes."

Informed sources said that one of the issues at stake was whether to conduct political reforms before, after or simultaneously with the election of a new president.

Kuwait celebrates National Day

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE National Day celebrations which started on Wednesday have been continuing with great pomp and fervor.

The Ministry of Education held a festival on Thursday at the auditorium of the Special Institute for the Handicapped.

About 3,000 students and teachers participated in the show, which was attended by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

Cultures of 22 Arab countries were depicted through songs and dances.

Marriage ceremonies as practiced in various Arab countries were also shown.

Dances

The rich costumes of each country associated with wedding traditions and dances of Arab countries were displayed. Costumes such as the headgear of the Moroccan bride as well as the wedding gown, and the Palestinian wedding gown were the centre of attraction among the wide variety of highly exquisite displays.

(Continued on Page 4)

Air-India urged to cut fares on Gulf route

NEW DELHI, Feb. 24, (KUNA): Air-India has been urged by a parliamentary committee to reduce fares on the Gulf route.

The Committee on Public Undertaking (COPU) of Parliament in its report for the year 1988-89, COPU chairman Vakkom Purushottaman said Air-India has continued to charge the same fare for the Trivandrum-Gulf sector even after the actual distance had been reduced by 230 kilometres following the introduction of direct flights.

The reduction in distance has enabled Air-India to cut its operating costs on the route by about Rs300 (about KD5.500) per passenger in each direction. So, Air-India's savings are quite large on this sector, the committee said.

Air-India says International Air Transport Association (IATA) rules prohibit the airlines from lowering fares.

The committee also said, the profit earned on this sector by Air-India has declined from Rs990 million (KD18 million) in 1985 to Rs430 million (KD7.8 million) in 1987.

Explosion rips open a hole in jumbo jet

HONOLULU, Feb. 24, (AP): An explosion ripped open a large hole in a United Airlines jumbo jet shortly after takeoff today, and the plane landed with some passengers missing, a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said.

The Boeing 747 had departed Honolulu International Airport at 1:53 am local time (1153 GMT) carrying 336 passengers and 19 crew members for Auckland, New Zealand, and returned to Honolulu at 2:33 am (1233 GMT), after two of its four

(Continued on Page 2)

The Arab Times extends its congratulations to HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Premier, the government and the people of Kuwait on the occasion of the National Day.

The Arab Times will not be published tomorrow due to the National Day holiday.

10 die in Bombay riots over Rushdie

BOMBAY, Feb. 24, (Agencies): Ten people were killed and at least 40 injured today when police fired on Muslims protesting against Salman Rushdie's The Satanic Verses, police said.

Police Commissioner Arvind Inamdar said his men fired at a violent mob that attempted to march to the British deputy high commission after Friday prayers to condemn Bombay-born Rushdie's novel.

He said police stopped the march in central Bombay, where a crowd of 10,000 stoned cars and burned buses, and then fired their guns after lobbing teargas bombs and swinging riot canes.

Banned

Police had earlier banned the march and arrested 500 people in an effort to ward off violence. Another 800 people were arrested in the riot, including several prominent Muslims.

Two policemen were stabbed in the melee and 15 of the injured were in serious condition, the police commissioner said.

"It all happened so suddenly," said protest leader Sharafat Khan.

Protest leaders were pleading with police to let the march go on when, he said, "the crowd surged forward and the police hit them with clubs. There was stone throwing and then gunfire."

There was turmoil at the State Hospital in Bombay as relatives of the dead and wounded wept, wailed and swore at hospital officials.

It was the worst violence since Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini ordered the execution of Rushdie, for blasphemy against Islam.

The shootings in Bombay came just hours before Iran's Parliamentary Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani declared in Tehran that his country would not be held responsible if a Muslim killed Rushdie.

His remark appeared to be an attempt to separate the row over the book from relations with Western countries.

While many Western nations have denounced Khomeini's death call and withdrawn diplomats from Tehran in

(Continued on Page 3)

Buy citizenship
MAJURO, Marshall Islands, Feb. 24, (Reuters): Foreigners will be allowed to buy citizenship of this central Pacific nation for \$250,000 under a law passed this week.

DAY BY DAY

GRADUATES of the Sharia (Islamic studies) College of Kuwait University have been facing a problem for the past three years.

Graduates have been claiming that they are not permitted to work as teachers with the Ministry of Education though their expertise is needed.

This problem leads us to reflect on an important issue. Why are students not given proper guidance which would channel their expertise to specialisations needed by the country?

Why should the country have a surplus of lawyers when the need of the hour is, say for engineers — to give a single analogy?

This issue of having too many graduates in fields of specialisations the country does not need should be addressed and rectified on a priority basis.

Zahed Matar

INSIDE

22-page issue today
a 5-page supplement on Kuwait

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں
○ بیجی میں پولیس فائرنگ سے دس افراد ہلاک
○ کویت میں قومی دن کی رگڑ رنگ تقریبات
○ مجاہدین نے تنقیدی عبوری حکومت قائم کر لی
○ سکوں نے خرید چھ افراد کو ہلاک کر دیا
○ پاکستان نے کمالات کے میزائل تیار کر لئے
○ پاکستان کے ضمنی انتخاب میں بگڑا آرائی
○ نیوز کی لینڈ میں میٹاندا اور شعیب کی شہزادیاں

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light variable to north-westerly wind.
State of sea: slight
High water: 2.00 am, 2.30 pm
Low water: 8.30 am, 9.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.19 am
Sunset: 5.44 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 22°C 72°F
Almudi: 20°C 68°F
Faiaka: 37°C 98°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 8°C 46°F
Almudi: 13°C 55°F
Faiaka: 11°C 52°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 22°C 72°F
Almudi: 20°C 68°F
Faiaka: 37°C 98°F
Minimum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 8°C 46°F
Almudi: 13°C 55°F
Faiaka: 11°C 52°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 70 per cent
Almudi: 70 per cent
Faiaka: 70 per cent

PLO leader meets Israeli newsmen

Arafat ready to meet Shamir

CAIRO, Feb. 24, (Agencies): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat staged an unprecedented news conference for Israeli journalists yesterday and said he was ready to meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir but feared assassination in Israel.

Asked if he would imitate the 1977 first trip to Israel by then Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, Arafat said: "I am ready to meet them (Israeli leaders), I have declared it clearly... there has been no response."

When asked to confirm that he wanted to meet Shamir, who has repeatedly vowed never to negotiate with the PLO, Arafat replied: "Definitely, because I do not have the right to choose their representatives as they do not have the right to choose our representatives."

Arafat added: "But don't forget (Israeli rightwing chief and Industry Minister Ariel) Sharon is going to kill me, there is a decision in their cabinet to kill me."

Mossad, Israel's intelligence agency, "is running after me and instructions (to kill) have been given," he said. Sharon masterminded Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon to drive out the PLO.

Arafat's deputy in the Fatah group Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, said in a videotape shown to peace activists in Jerusalem on Wednesday that the PLO wanted direct talks with Israel. But a senior Israeli spokesman yesterday rejected the latest appeal.

Commenting earlier to local journalists, Arafat said that such direct talks should be under United Nations auspices.

But he made no such qualification when speaking separately to nearly 20 Israeli, whom he surprised by saying that he had spent a couple of days in Tel Aviv in 1968. He gave no details.

The news conference was suggested by veteran Israeli peace campaigner Abie Nathan, who made a plea for Middle East peace and who has met Arafat despite Israeli laws banning such contacts.

The Israeli journalists, in Cairo for a visit by Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, said the ban did not apply to them as foreign reporters were present and international events were not prohibited.

Dialogue

Palestinians Mohammed Milhem, former Mayor of the West Bank town of Halhoul, and Akram Haniyeh, a newsmen from the same area, both of whom were expelled by Israel, flanked the PLO chairman.

Arafat also said that the Soviet Union's new dialogue with Israel is giving him a channel for "indirect negotiations" with Israel.

Meanwhile, Bassam Abu Sharif, Arafat's political adviser, said he hoped to meet Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin in London.

"I'm working through British political figures in the Conservative Party to arrange a meeting with Rabin who will visit London," Abu Sharif said in an interview with the Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronot.

Government-in-exile formed

Afghan rebels demand UN seat

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Feb. 24, (Agencies): Afghan rebels launched their new government-in-exile today by demanding the country's seat at the United Nations and calling on supporters of the Kabul administration to desert it.

Moderate Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, elected head of the rebel mujahadeen government yesterday, also offered an amnesty to most Kabul officials.

He added that his government hoped to meet inside Afghanistan within a month.

"We request the United Nations to give the seat of Afgh-

anistan to the legal government of the mujahadeen," he told a news conference at the close of a consultative council, or shura, which elected him.

"We call on our brothers still working with the puppet regime to join the ranks of the mujahadeen," he said.

Offer

"We offer a general amnesty for all those whose hands are not stained with the blood of our brothers," Mojaddidi said.

He did not offer any definition of those not covered by the amnesty, but after previous such offers mujahadeen officials said

only about 1,000 people would be excepted.

They include President Najibullah and other top ranking members of his government, now fighting alone after the departure on Feb 15 of the last Soviet troops, which had backed Kabul for nine years.

The exceptions also include members of the Khad secret police the mujahadeen accuse of torturing prisoners, they have said.

The government-in-exile was voted into office after nearly two

(Continued on Page 2)

Pakistan to launch satellite next year

KARACHI, Feb 24, (Agencies): Pakistan will launch its first satellite, Badr-A, next year at an altitude of 400 km (250 miles), Radio Pakistan said today.

It quoted Salim Mahmud, chairman of Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) as saying the satellite would transmit communications to low-cost tracking ground stations in the country.

Pakistan said last week it had produced its first shoulder-fired surface-to-air missile, with a range of up to 5,000 metres.

Pakistan has also successfully test-fired its first long-range rockets.

Pakistani nuclear scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan, meanwhile, said that Pakistan has not only achieved self-sufficiency in missile production but it has also produced them at a very low cost.

Bush vows to win the battle

Senate panel votes against Tower nomination

WASHINGTON, Feb 24, (Reuters): President Bush has been handed a bitter pill by the Senate Armed Services Committee's rejection of John Tower as Defence Secretary, but he is counting on the full Senate to rescue the nomination.

After weeks of agonising over reports of Tower's alleged philandering and drinking and his close ties to defence contractors, all 11 Democrats on the committee voted against Tower last night — the nine Republicans, in favour.

The rebuff by the Armed Services Committee, which Tower once chaired, was a severe blow for Bush, in office only a month.

It cast a shadow on the new President's prestige at a time he was mingling with world leaders in Tokyo for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

But Bush vowed today to stand behind the nomination of Tower.

"I'm going to win this battle," Bush told reporters following a Senate Armed Services Committee vote rejecting Tower's nomination.

Drain

"I'm going to strongly back Senator Tower and I don't believe he is going down the drain," the President said in Tokyo.

"I have not considered any options and I stand strongly with John Tower," the President said.

Bush's spokesman acted swiftly to quash speculation that the nomination might be withdrawn to avoid more embarrassment.

"The President has not lost one iota of confidence in Senator Tower or his ability to be defence secretary," Marlin Fitzwater told reporters in Tokyo.

The committee's action sent Tower's nomination to the full Senate, where Democrats have a 55-45 majority, for a final vote that is expected next Wednesday or Thursday.

Many Democrats predict the Senate will accept the committee's recommendation and reject Bush's nominee.

That would send Tower into the history books as only the ninth cabinet nominee to be turned down in the Senate's 200-year history.

Tower had no immediate public comment but a spokesman said the nominee would await the Senate vote.

Crucial

His defeat would mean that the huge Pentagon bureaucracy, where crucial decisions on budgets and weapons have remained in limbo for the first month of the Bush administration, would remain leaderless.

In statements before the evening vote, none of the committee members questioned Tower's knowledge of defence issues or his record of public service.

Tower served 24 years in the Senate and chaired the Armed Services Committee from 1981 through 1984.

He also served as former President Reagan's strategic arms negotiator in Geneva and headed a presidential panel that investigated the secret sale of arms to Iran — and bluntly faulted Reagan's White House for the scandal.

Hariri sentenced to life in prison for hijack

LAUSANNE, Feb 24, (Agencies): A Lebanese Shiite hijacker was sentenced to life imprisonment for hijacking an Air Afrique airliner and assassinating a French passenger.

Swiss Federal Court President Jean-Jacques Leu said the five-judge panel could find no extenuating circumstances in the way Muslim Hussein Mohammed Ali Hariri, 23, carried out the July 24, 1987 hijacking.

"And there were no honourable motives for this action nor any sincere regrets on the part of the accused for the death of Xavier Beaulieu," he added.

The bearded Hariri stood motionless as Leu said the court could not agree with his version that he had killed Beaulieu in self defence after the passenger stood up and threatened him.

"This line of defence does not resist examination," Leu said, adding that another French passenger, Sebastian Brethes, said Beaulieu sat motionless before he was shot in the back of the head at close range.

Singled

Both men were singled out by Hariri as the first hostages to die if the plane, which was commandeered shortly after takeoff from Rome to Paris, did not leave quickly for Beirut.

Hariri said he planned to exchange some of the 166 people on board the DC-10 scheduled

flight from Brazzaville, for pro-Iranian guerrillas held by France and West Germany.

The flight captain convinced him the plane should stop for refuelling at Geneva airport where the drama unfolded.

Hariri's lawyers said he had taken the verdict philosophically and he was not afraid to serve a life sentence but refused the terrorist label.

Allowed

Under Swiss law, Hariri was not allowed to make a statement after sentencing. He was escorted out of the wood-paneled courtroom to start serving his sentence in a Geneva prison.

Leu said Hariri could be released after a minimum of 15 years for good conduct and would then be immediately expelled from Switzerland.

In Lebanon the father of Hariri said tearfully he did not expect such a verdict.

"I was expecting severe judgement against my son, but I never thought he would be sentenced to life imprisonment," said Mohammed Hariri, 61.

Hussein's mother, Felleh, burst into tears when a reporter asked her about her son.

"I do not want to talk about my son. Nobody is with him and no one can help him," Felleh said at the family residence adjacent to the grocery shop they own.

Tracy Chapman, Bobby McFerrin take top Grammy awards

LOS ANGELES, Feb 24, (AP): Tracy Chapman, a quiet newcomer who brought a disquieting reality to the top charts with her debut album, won three Grammy awards on Wednesday night — but the record and song of the year was Bobby McFerrin's ebullient "Don't Worry, Be Happy."

McFerrin, whose voice and body are his only instruments, was the night's big winner with four of the coveted miniature gramophones. He also won male jazz vocal performance for the song "Brothers."

Both big winners lost to George Michael for album of the year. He won for his platinum "Faith," a blend of ballad, rock and soulful pop, including the hit single "I Want Your Sex."

The British vocalist was the first white solo artist to top Billboard's black charts, with "Faith," which sold more than 12 million copies in its first year of release.

The album "Tracy Chapman," ranging from folk to pop ballad to reggae, has sold more than 4 million copies for the 24-year-old singer-songwriter who looks uncompromisingly at poverty, racism, inequality and human rights. As year ago, she was singing in small Boston clubs while studying anthropology.

India to aid \$50m to US super collider atom smasher

WASHINGTON, Feb 24, (AP): India has agreed to make a \$50-million contribution toward the US super collider atom smasher, the first foreign country to commit to helping the \$4.6-billion project, a US lawmaker said yesterday.

Robert Hunter Jr., director of the office of energy research at the Energy Department, said the agreement with India calls for an "in kind" contribution, meaning it will come in the form of equipment or services. It is contingent upon a US commitment to build the collider, Hunter said.

Congressman Joe Barton, speaking at a subcommittee of the House of Representatives committee on science, space and technology, said that in addition to India's pledge of help, Japan, Taiwan, Korea and several Western European nations have held preliminary cost-sharing discussions with US officials.

Barton represents the district that includes the planned collider site.

Signed

Last year, Italy signed an agreement to explore collaboration on the project. India is the first country to make a commitment.

President George Bush has endorsed the super collider and recommended spending \$250 million in the fiscal year beginning Oct 1 toward initial construction.

The Energy Department has chosen a site around Waxahatchie, Texas, for the 53-mile (85-kilometre) underground tunnel in which beams of protons would smash into each other with 20 times the energy of today's most powerful atomic accelerators.

Faced with heavy demands for funds for science projects, Congress last year agreed only to spend \$100 million on the project in the current fiscal year and decreed none of the money could be used for construction.

Moscow seeks Gulf war talks breakthrough

BAGHDAD, Feb 24, (Reuters): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, turning from Middle East peacemaking to mediating in the Gulf conflict, today began talks in Iraq ahead of a rare meeting with Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

Soviet embassy sources said Shevardnadze discussed with his Iraqi counterpart Tareq Aziz the Iran-Iraq peace talks which are due to resume next month in New York after making scant progress since an August ceasefire.

Shevardnadze is likely to meet President Saddam Hussein tomorrow, the sources said. He will fly to Tehran the same day for talks with Iranian leader Khomeini.

Moscow "has a strong wish to push ahead the Gulf peace talks and I will be very happy if we achieve a step forward in this respect," Shevardnadze told reporters on arrival from Cairo yesterday.

The UN-sponsored talks have stalled because Baghdad wants the disputed Shatt Al Arab waterway on the Iran-Iraq frontier dredged at once, while Iran wants Iraqi troops to pull out of a several hundred square miles (km) of its territory first.

Afghan rebels demand UN seat

(Continued from Page 1)

weeks of feuding between moderates and fundamentalists joined in a seven-party Pakistan-based alliance and a boycott by eight smaller groups based in Iran.

Mojaddidi said he would be executive president and announce one clarification of the complex system under which shura delegates voted for two of the seven Pakistan-based parties with several jobs attached to each ranking.

As the biggest vote-getter, Mojaddidi became president, with the runner-up by a single vote, fundamentalist Abdurrahman Rasul Sayyaf, becoming prime minister.

Eligible

Mojaddidi said the third party head, Mohammed Nabi Mohammadi had chosen the Defence Ministry. That slot would otherwise have gone to hardline firebrand Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Hekmatyar, eligible for several ministries, said he would nominate one of his followers to the post of foreign affairs.

Two other leaders also shunned office. Sayed Ahmed Gailani, a moderate who like Hekmatyar wants early elections to be held among the three million Afghan refugees in Pakistani camps, said he would nominate a follower to the finance portfolio.

Burhamuddin Rabbani, who came sixth after he was earlier thought to have a good chance at the presidency, declined to take the Ministry of Rehabilitation. Considerable amounts of money would flow through that ministry should the war end.

The resistance leaders based in Iran today rejected the provisional government, Tefariz Radio reported.

The broadcast, quoted Mohammad Karim Khadaji spokesman for the Iran-based alliance, as saying that "we consider the formation of the interim government as one sided, and cannot recognise it."

Position

He said that "the eight-party alliance based in Iran will soon announce its official position of the formation of the government."

The Afghan Foreign Ministry also dismissed the election of the rebel government-in-exile as a "Pakistan-orchestrated exercise which would prolong the war."

At the United Nations, an Iranian spokesman accused Pakistan and the United States of supporting Afghan rebel raids in violation of their agreement not to interfere in the country's internal affairs.

The Security Council, meanwhile, began private consultations on how to address the accusation, contained in a letter from Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil to council president Jai Pratap Rana of Nepal.

Explosion rips open a hole in jumbo jet

(Continued from Page 1)

engines failed, according to Joann Decamp, a dispatcher at the airport.

Barbara Abels, an FAA spokeswoman in Los Angeles, said eight to 11 passengers were believed missing from the plane, United Airlines Flight 811.

A passenger at a Honolulu hospital said, some people were "blown out" of the plane.

Abels said the right side of the plane's cargo compartment was blown out.

"You could drive an ambulance through it, you could see the seats and the baggage compartment from the outside," said Ray Mews, a photographer of KGBM-TV.

Abels said authorities had no immediate clue as to what caused the explosion, and a crew from the National Transportation Safety Board was en route to investigate.

Kaiser Medical Centre said three passengers were being treated there for minor injuries.

FAA spokesman John Leyden in Washington said the pilot reported losing power in one right-side engine nine minutes after takeoff and eight minutes later radioed he had lost power in the other right-side engine. He then returned to Honolulu.

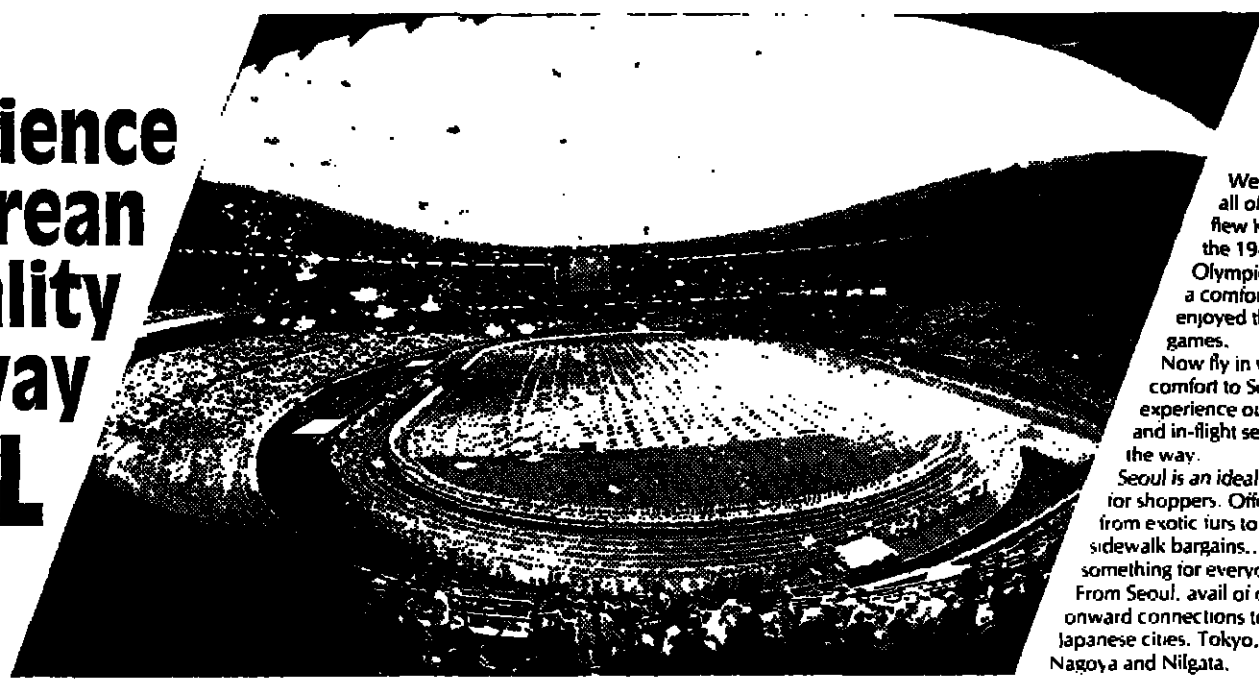
An FAA spokesman in Honolulu, who declined to give his name, said the pilot was 100 miles (160 kilometres) south of Honolulu when he radioed that he had been an explosion.

Plane crash kills 7

HELSINKI, Feb 24, (UPI): A private airplane crashed while trying to land at Helsinki's port, killing seven of eight people aboard, Finnish police said.

The Finnish-owned plane, twin-engine Fairchild Swearingen Merlin III, was on a private flight last night from London. Helsinki when it crashed 8 yards from the runway.

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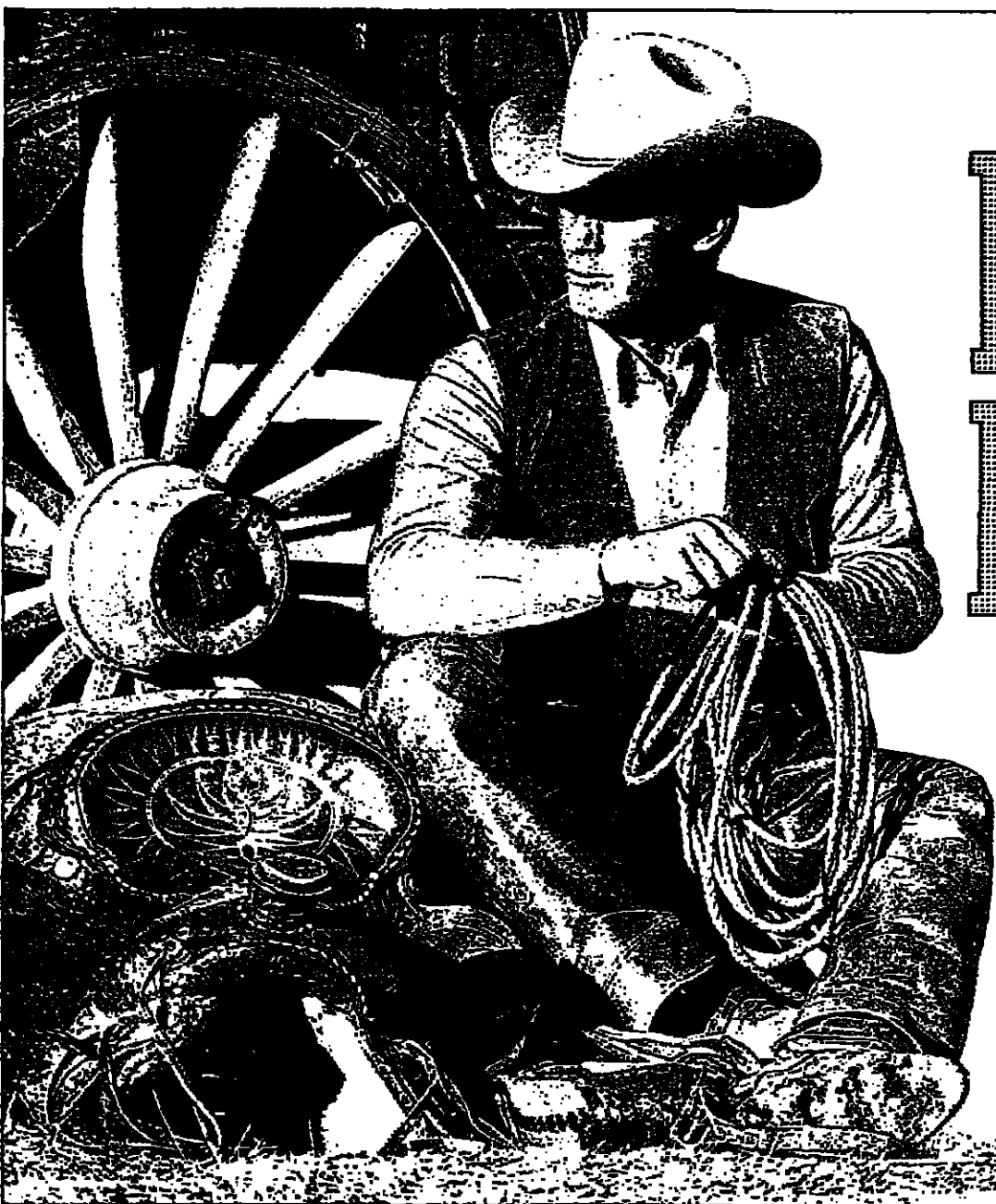
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Army takes over port from militia in Beirut

BEIRUT, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Lebanon's strongest Christian militia withdrew from a dock at Beirut port last night, cutting themselves off from a major source of revenue.

Troops loyal to Christian Army commander Major-General Michel Aoun moved into the Fifth Basin at Beirut port after Lebanese Forces (LF) militiamen departed.

The troop deployment was the latest act by Aoun to enforce governmental control in Christian East Beirut over militia forces that have challenged the Army's power.

Political sources said the dock, almost on the dividing line between East Beirut and the Muslim west of the city, was closed today but it might reopen in the few days.

Control
At least 59 people were killed in battles last week between the LF and Aoun's mainly-Christian forces in Lebanon's Christian heartland.

Aoun, who heads one of the country's two rival governments and advocates strong central power to end nearly 14 years of civil war, announced a crackdown on the LF after the church

mediated a ceasefire.

The LF seized control of the Fifth Basin eight years ago. Aoun has said illegal taxes levied on imports and exports from the dock provide the headline militia with \$200,000 a month.

He has also demanded that the militia stop taxing the estimated 1.3 million people in the Christian enclave. The LF sees itself as the guardian of the last Christian community in the Middle East.

Aoun, with his 15,000-strong Army, has said he is determined to close down all illegal ports outside government control and block illegal sources of income for Lebanon's militias.

Robert Franjeh, leader of the pro-Syrian Christian Maradeh militia in north Lebanon, was quoted today as saying he was ready to hand over the port of Sela'ata to government control.

The independent An Nahar newspaper quoted him as saying his decision was in line with steps to increase government control.

Acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim who heads a Syrian-backed government vying with Aoun for power, yesterday welcomed all moves to close illegal ports and restore central authority.

Iraq opens airspace to planes for Iran

BAGHDAD, Feb. 24. (AP): Seventy-eight Iraqi prisoners of war flew home from Iran yesterday as the head of civil aviation in Iraq said the technical work was completed to allow jetliners bound to and from Iran to transit Iraq's airspace.

The official said Basra international airport is also now ready to accept international flights at bargain rates.

The prisoners released were the third and final group of 233 sick and disabled prisoners Iran said it released to mark the 10th anniversary of the Islamic revolution earlier this month.

Iraq said it would release 260 prisoners, but the official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, said 27 of them sought political asylum in Iran.

The head of the Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority, Majid Khalil Hussein said the Iraqi air force was open to Iranian national airlines flying to Iranian airports. But he said no arrangements were in place to pass the planes off to Iranian flight controllers.

Iraq announced in late January during a visit by United Nations special envoy Jan Eliasson that it would open its airspace to flights to Iran, including those by Iran Air.

Hussein told a press conference at Baghdad's airport that all technical arrangements have been completed.

"He said border air control posts have been erected and new radar stations were installed to facilitate civilian aviation into Iran through Iraqi airspace."

Response

The Iraqi official expressed hope that Iran would take similar measures to ensure safety of civil aviation over the border of the two countries.

"We have completed our obligation, now it is the other party's turn," Hussein said.

The move was a confidence-building gesture in a bid to ease tensions between the two countries. It came after a series of attacks on Iranian ships in the Persian Gulf, halted by a ceasefire on Aug. 20.

Referendum opens way for liberalism

Algeria ends one-party rule

ALGIERS, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Algerians have voted overwhelmingly to slam the door on over a quarter of a century of dogmatic one-party socialism and move into a new era of political and economic liberalism.

Announcing the result of a poll on a new constitution today, Interior Minister Aboubakr Belkaid said 73.4 per cent of Algerians who voted in yesterday's referendum had cast their ballot in favour of change.

Socialism

He told reporters just over 10 million, or 79 per cent, of Algeria's 13 million registered voters had turned out to vote. Some 7,290,760 voted "yes" and 2,637,673 "no."

Voting was overshadowed by threats of disruption by Islamic fundamentalists. Although turnout was slightly down on a

previous referendum in November, witnesses reported no signs of protest against the vote.

The new constitution allows the creation of independent political associations, guarantees all workers the right to strike, deletes virtually all references to socialism, and guarantees individual and collective rights.

It was drawn up after President Chadli Benjedid promised far-reaching political reforms in response to violent anti-austerity riots that gripped the country last October, leaving at least 162 people dead.

Break

It is the third time Algerians have voted since the October unrest, but political analysts say the reforms in the new constitution represent the most important political changes since

independence from France in 1962.

"This constitution represents a complete break with the past. Algeria is in the process of moving from the socialist into the Western group of nations," one North African analyst said.

Opposition

In the 1960s and 70s, leftist Algeria was at the forefront of the non-aligned group of nations with its own particular brand of Third World socialism.

The new constitution signals the end of a monopoly on power enjoyed by the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) since independence.

It guarantees the separation of powers between judiciary, legislative and executive and creates an all-powerful constitutional council to oversee its implementation.

The next stage of Chadli's

reform process will be an electoral law spelling out qualifications for new parties and candidates, followed by elections at national and regional levels.

Chadli, elected to a third five-year term in December, has used the riots to sidestep opposition from conservatives within the FLN to economic reforms aimed at dismantling a centralised state-dominated economy.

Some leftist groups, including diehard FLN members, have opposed the constitution because it abandons socialism as Algeria's guiding ideology.

The Algerian Journalists' Movement condemned threats of boycott by what it called "various clerical organisations of a paramilitary nature."

Residents said Islamic militant Ahmed Belhadj, prayer leader at one of the capital's best-attended mosques, had been calling for a



Benjedid: reforms

boycott of the referendum because it did not go far enough towards recognising the role of Islamic law.

Three leaders of the Courant Islamiste (Islamic Trend) last weekend issued a statement asking President Benjedid to amend the constitution before putting it to a poll but they said the people should make up their own minds how to vote.

10 die in Bombay riots over Rushdie

(Continued from Page 1)

protest, other non-Muslim countries have been less inclined to act.

Japan today resisted British pressure to recall its ambassador from Iran.

Rushdie is writing from a secret hideaway despite Iranian death threats but the international storm over his book The Satanic Verses has stirred concern about the fate of Western hostages in Lebanon.

An editor of The Observer newspaper of London said he had spoken on the telephone to Rushdie, who has been hiding under guard in Britain since Khomeini ordered his death.

"He did not sound terminally depressed or anything," said literary editor Blake Morrison. He said Rushdie was still writing and had submitted a review of a book by American author Philip Roth to the newspaper.

Rushdie was in contact with his friends and living as normally as he could in a safe house, Morrison added.

This was the first news of the 41-year-old Indian-born novelist since he issued a statement at the weekend apologising for offending Muslims world-wide.

In Beirut a pro-Iranian group holding three US hostages threatened to exact revenge on organisations that insulted Islam.

A statement by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine given to an international news agency was accompanied by a photograph of hostages Alan Stein, Jesse Turner and Robert Polhill.

Khomeini kept up his attacks on the book and Tehran Radio quoted him as saying Iran had no need of the West.

Iran has ordered home its European Economic Community ambassadors after EEC states decided to recall top envoys in Tehran.

Yugoslavia appealed to Tehran to lift the death threat while Western leaders in Tokyo for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito sought a united stand against the death order.

Area of brain causing fear identified

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Scientists said last night they had identified the part of the brain responsible for anxiety and fear, the first time researchers have linked an emotion to a specific region of the brain.

By studying tiny changes in blood flow through sophisticated brain-mapping technology, the scientists concluded that anxiety and fear were centred in the tips of the temporal lobes, located at the temples.

The researchers, from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, made their subjects anxious by telling them to expect a painful electric shock to their hands at some point during a 40-second period.

The researchers looked at increased blood flows because these flows directly reflect changes in brain cell activity.

Increased blood flow to the temporal lobes had previously been found in individuals with phobias and individuals with panic disorder. The researchers said the findings could help in the treatment of fear and worry that can occur without warning.



Benazir confers with Aquino

TOKYO, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Asia's two leading women finally met today, after the funeral of Emperor Hirohito in Tokyo.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Philippine President Corazon Aquino agreed to work to strengthen bilateral relations, a Pakistan spokesman said.

"There was a natural affinity," he said, adding that both women symbolised the struggle against dictatorship.

The spokesman said both also shared a history of personal tragedy — Aquino's husband was shot and Benazir's father was executed.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone met with leaders of the Indian subcontinent and said they would work for peace in their often volatile region.

Mahdi refusing to give in to military

KHARTOUM, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi is refusing to give in to demands from the military for reforms and a new government, a Khartoum newspaper reported today.

The Sudan Times daily said Mahdi had offered only conciliatory statements since the military gave him and head of state Ahmed Al Mirghani a memorandum with a one-week ultimatum on Wednesday.

Newspapers and diplomats said the Prime Minister has been playing for time, hoping to find military supplies from abroad to placate the Army.

"This is very much his style. When a crisis comes you buy time, keep people happy, keep the ball in the air," a diplomat said.

The government held an emergency meeting yesterday but did not reply to the demands for political and economic reforms. The official Sudan News Agency said it would meet again to discuss the crisis.

The Sudan Times said that military commanders had also

asked Mahdi to disband the militia drawn from his ruling Umma Party and ordered the Army onto a higher state of readiness.

Diplomats in Khartoum have said the Army's demands included the formation of a national salvation government bringing together all political forces, a peaceful end to a five-year civil war in the South and increased defence spending.

Newspapers said a delegation from the government coalition partners, Mahdi's Umma and the militant National Islamic Front (NIF), left on Wednesday for neighbouring Libya, Sudan's main foreign backer.

They said the team consisted of Supreme Council members Ali Hassan Tajeddin, also Umma's secretary-general, NIF politburo member Ibrahim Al Sinoussi and by a deputy chief-of-staff in charge of logistics.

"It is possible that the delegation has gone to say 'we've got a crisis with the Army and the only hope we have to keep the Army sweet is to give them guns or money,'" the diplomat said.

Sikh family murdered in Punjab

AMRITSAR, Feb. 24. (AP): Sikh gunmen crept into the sleeping quarters of a Sikh farmer in a village near Amritsar and killed five male members of the family, a senior police official said today.

Elsewhere in Punjab state, one Sikh was shot to death by Sikh militants agitating for a separate homeland.

More than 300 people have been killed so far this year by Sikh extremists.

Sikhs make up two per cent of India's population but are a slight majority in Punjab. Militants among them claim they are discriminated against by Hindus, who comprise more than 82 per cent of India's 880 million people. Sikhs have been fighting the Indian government since 1982.

Six militants forced their way into the house of Amrik Singh, 65, last night and opened fire on the male family members with Chinese assault rifles, killing Singh and his four sons, police superintendent G.S. Mann said.

The attack occurred in Rampur Thera village 42 kilometres north of Amritsar, Mann said.

US captain convicted for failing to help refugees

SUBIC BAY, Philippines, Feb. 24. (Reuters): A court martial today convicted a US Navy captain of dereliction of duty in failing to help adequately Vietnamese refugees at sea and handed down the minimum punishment, a letter of reprimand.

Captain Alexander Balian angrily accused superiors of making him a scapegoat. "I will fight," he told reporters after a six-man court penalised him with a reprimand after a two-week trial at the US Subic Naval Base in the Philippines.

The court found Balian, 48, innocent of another charge of failing to assist a refugee who swam to the USS Dubuque when it encountered a boatload of Vietnamese in the South China Sea on June 9.

Only 52 of 110 boat people who left Vietnam survived their 37 days at sea. Survivors said they turned to murder and cannibalism to stay alive.

The letter of reprimand was the minimum penalty and one the prosecution had requested. The maximum penalty Balian faced was three months imprisonment, discharge and loss of some benefits.

Agreement announced in Tokyo

China, Indonesia normalise ties

TOKYO, Feb. 24. (Reuters): China and Indonesia have agreed to normalise diplomatic relations, suspended for 22 years after Jakarta accused Beijing of backing a failed coup attempt.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Indonesian Minister of State Mardiono announced the agreement and told a press conference their ambassadors at the United Nations would work out details of the normalisation process.

"The talks can start immediately," a Chinese embassy spokesman said.

The decision to heal the long-standing rift between two of Asia's biggest countries was announced after talks between Qian and Indonesia's President Suharto who was in Tokyo for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

The ministers announced they

had agreed to normalise ties on the basis of non-interference in each other's affairs, a reference to Jakarta's allegation that Beijing was behind a 1965 communist-backed coup attempt to topple then Indonesian President Sukarno.

Coup

The charge was repeatedly denied by China after Indonesia suspended relations in 1967 following the rise to power of Suharto, who as a general commanding an elite force in Jakarta helped put down the coup.

"We were convinced by the Chinese foreign minister that China will never make any contact with or support those involved in the 1965 coup," Mardiono, who is Suharto's chief-of-staff, said.

"We had very good talks and I am very satisfied," said Qian.

"The foreign minister specified that the principles of non-interference means no interference of one state in another state, and no interference of one party with another party in their respective countries," Mardiono added.

Indonesia, the world's fifth largest country which commands the sea lanes between the Indian and Pacific oceans, reopened trade links with China in 1985.

But Suharto, who has ruled the predominantly Muslim nation for more than two decades since helping to crush the 1965 coup, had resisted resuming full diplomatic ties, insisting that Beijing promise not to interfere in Indonesia's internal affairs.

Sri Lanka to ask Indians to leave

COLOMBO, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Sri Lanka said it would ask Indian forces to leave the island in about six months when police were strong enough to protect people from Tamil guerrillas.

Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne made the announcement as military sources reported Tamil and Sinhalese guerrillas had killed 12 people in the past 24 hours.

Indian troops have been deployed in the north and east under an agreement signed in 1987 between Colombo and Delhi aimed at ending a separatist revolt by the Tamil minority community.

Wijeratne, who is also foreign minister, added he would seek popular support for action against leftwing Sinhalese rebels blamed for most of the violence in the south.

Foolish

Wijeratne told a news conference that the withdrawal of the Indian forces would be speeded up when a recently created provincial council in the north-east was able to protect ordinary people from Tamil guerrillas.

He said the council would need about another six months to

build up an adequate police force.

"We do not intend to be foolish just to satisfy the whims of a few individuals, Sinhalese and Tamil extremists, who want the Indians to go," Wijeratne said.

"The Indian forces will go when President (Ranasinghe) Premadasa asks them to go. That is the agreement," he said.

Forty-five thousand Indian troops are deployed to combat an armed campaign by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) to set up an independent homeland.

LTTE guerrillas raided a Sinhalese village on Wednesday night, shot dead six people and then set fire to their homes with the bodies inside, military sources said.

Ten villagers were wounded in the attack on Wel Oya village in the north-central province.

Six people, all political activists, were killed in attacks in the south blamed on the People's Liberation Front.

The authorities have accused the front, composed of members of the majority Sinhalese community, of violence in the past six months aimed at disrupting the December presidential poll and last week's general election.

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Kuwait National Cinema Company

Kuwait celebrates National Day

(Continued from Page 1)

During the show which lasted for four hours, sweets were distributed among guests. These were varieties of specialties from different Arab countries.

Besides Sheikh Saad and top Kuwaiti officials, the foreign ministers of Jordan, Tunisia, Algeria as well as the religious leaders of Lebanon and the Arab League secretary-general attended the function.

A festival was also held at Ahmadi where a sword-dance was presented. The dance was led by the governor of Ahmadi.

Kuwait's Fire Brigade held a display of fire-fighting techniques yesterday and displayed various fire-fighting equipment.

A function was held at the Sulaiman Al Shamari Popular Cafe in Sharq. The celebration was attended by Abdul Rahman Yousif Al Mazroui, the acting Undersecretary of the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry, and Ali Jassem Al Saddah, the general director of the cafe.

Today, a grand festival will be held at the Kuwait Towers. It will be organised by the National Day Celebration Committee. The function will start at 6.00 pm and will depict folk dances, laser games and fireworks. Students, TV and other folk troupes will take part in the show.

Meanwhile, Syrian President Hafez Assad congratulated HH the Amir on the occasion of the National Day and expressed his country's keenness to strengthen relations.

Arab chemists council to meet tomorrow

KUWAIT, Feb 24, (KUNA): The Higher Council of Arab Chemists is due to hold its 11th session here on Feb 26 to 28 under the auspices of Information Minister and Acting Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah.

Kuwait Chemists Society's Secretary-General Dr Mader Abdallah Al Jalal said the three-day session, at the Meridian Hotel, would discuss two projects drafted by the society on the organisation of an Arab Olympic chemist contest and the convocation of the 9th Arab Chemists Conference in Kuwait. Besides setting a date for the forthcoming 9th conference, the meeting would also review the proposed project of the Arab dictionary of chemistry that will be financed by the Kuwait Chemists Society, Dr Nader said.

The meeting is to be attended by participants from chemist societies of Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Palestine, Algeria, Tunis, Libya and Morocco as well as representatives for Bahrain and Sultan Qaboos universities as observers.

Airport taxis

TAXI services at Kuwait International Airport will be reorganised and procedures streamlined to facilitate passengers, according to a source at the Civil Aviation Department.

These taxi services will shortly be under the supervision of a new office to be organised for monitoring taxis to and from the airport.

The official said that tickets will be issued to passengers utilising these taxis. The taxi, prior to departure from the airport, will have to record all information pertaining to the taxi such as: name of the driver, licence number of the car, time of departure, tariff and destination of the passenger. This information will be written in both Arabic and English.

The proposal will be finalised after the department has been provided with the approval of the new suggested tariff of taxis from the Ministry of Interior, the official said.



Governor of Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Al Salem participating in the Ardha dance.



Children singing and dancing at a show organised by the Ministry of Defence in honour of martyrs' families. The performance was held at Khaled Al Jeeran garden in Kefan.



Young girls parading in exquisite costume at a show organised by the Special Institute of the Ministry of Education.



Fire-fighting display organised by Kuwait's Fire Department in the Al Rai area.



Prisoners in a bus after they were pardoned.

Prisoners released in Amiri amnesty

KUWAIT, Feb 24, (KUNA): Under an Amiri amnesty marking the country's 28th National Day celebrations, 292 prisoners were released yesterday while 434 others had their prison terms commuted, a senior Interior Ministry officer said.

Colonel Fahd Abdul Rahman Al Yassin, head of the prison department, told KUNA the pardon halved the prison terms for men and three quarters of the term for women and juvenile delinquents.

Some 797 prisoners who had

been convicted on felonies have benefited from the pardon and so did 95 others imprisoned on conviction in minor cases, the colonel said.

Excluded from the pardon were rapists and drug traffickers, he said.

Prisoners released under the pardon included 29 Kuwaiti men, one woman and three juveniles, while 191 Kuwaiti men, two women and four juveniles had their prison terms commuted.

UAE kidnap case verdict to be announced March 6

KHOR FAKKAN, Feb 24, (AP): The Khor Fakkan criminal court will rule on March 6 in the case of two Irishmen charged with the kidnapping of a 5-year-old girl, the court president, Judge Abdullah Al Orfi, announced yesterday.

Gerard Flynn, 25, and Dennis Dennehy, 28, have denied the kidnapping charge during their trial which began in November.

In a 23-page defence plea, Attorney Mahmoud Al Muqadem told the court that it was Naseer, a Jordanian, who kidnapped the child from her mother.

The defence produced documents showing that Naseer registered his daughter at a school before he went to Dublin to see her last year. That indicated he was plotting to bring the child back with him, although a Dublin court had granted the mother custody of the child after the divorce.

In Dublin, Naseer convinced his former wife to allow the child to go on holiday with him. He then appealed for custody at a Muslim court in Jordan and won the case. He then brought the girl to the United Arab Emirates to live with him and his new wife.

Arab Doctors Union to aid Palestinians

BAGHDAD, Feb 24, (KUNA): The Arab Doctors Union has decided to hold an extraordinary session in Amman to be allocated entirely for discussing means of extending material and moral aid to the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The union, in a statement released at the conclusion of their meeting here last night, called on Arab professional unions and international humanitarian organisations to attend that session.

It appealed to people around the world and international bodies to intervene to end the savage Israeli practices against unarmed Arab citizens.

The statement hailed steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied lands and expressed pride over their heroic uprising.

The doctors expressed concern, in this respect, over the deteriorating health conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Special supplements in foreign dailies highlight Kuwait's achievements

LONDON, Feb 24, (KUNA): An influential British newspaper "The Financial Times" devoted yesterday a five-page supplement to highlight Kuwait's celebration of its 28th National Day, stressing that the Arab country will benefit from peace in the Gulf.

The daily pointed out that the ceasefire in the Gulf war has "brought a collective sigh of relief in Kuwait and that the business sector now hopes for an upturn provoked by reconstruction in Iraq."

The most immediate benefit of the ceasefire is the "improved security for its imports and oil exports," it added.

The daily quoted Kuwait's Interior Minister, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah Al Salem as saying "there was a moment for me and the government for taking matters very seriously."

He went on "now things are relaxed, there is no tight security."

On the prospects for peace between Iraq and Kuwait, the Financial Times quoted Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimi as noting "it will not be easy for them to come to an agreement in one month or even in one year."

Turning to Kuwait's efforts to modernise its armed forces, the paper said that to deter any incursion, Kuwait agreed to buy \$1.9 billion worth of F-18 jets and Maverick missiles from the US.

Meanwhile, it pointed out that Kuwait's population is growing at one of the fastest rates in the world, and oil prices are not as high as they once were, causing per capita income to fall to moderate levels.

Arab engineers council issues statement at the end of 43rd session

KUWAIT, Feb 24, (KUNA): The Supreme Council of the Arab Engineering Federation yesterday expressed its deep appreciation to HH the Amir and high respect for his inauguration of the 18th Arab Engineering Conference in Kuwait.

The council decided to consider HH's inaugural speech as one of the conference's important Arab national documents.

The council expressed, in a statement issued at the conclusion of deliberations of its 43rd session, its thanks to the Kuwait Engineers Society for hosting and organising the conference.

It also hailed all those who contributed to success of that great Arab gathering.

The council affirmed that Arab development depends primarily on the maximum benefit of human and engineering sciences which they are rapidly

Referring to the political situation, the publication emphasised that Kuwait is one of the most developed Gulf states.

In its report, the paper also touched on the banking sector in Kuwait and described the National Bank of Kuwait as an "institution of high international repute and in a league of its own in Kuwait."

On the activities of KIO, the Financial Times referred to its stake in British Petroleum and it quoted Kuwaiti officials as indicating that KIO was operating within the law and according to free market principles.

The daily also said that Kuwait's policies "have paid off handsomely in a period of low oil prices, providing the country with a measure of financial stability which must be envied by other mono-commodity exporters."

In 1986, and probably, again last year, investment income overtook oil as a source of foreign earnings, the main business daily in Europe recalled.

"At current rates of production, the oil which has transformed Kuwait into a modern state with international financial muscle will last for more than two centuries," the paper made it clear.

On aid policies, the Financial Times said that "Kuwait has always been one of the world's most generous donors of aid as a proportion of its gross national product, and at times the most generous of all."

Most of the aid is in the form of economic development, but there are also contributions in the form of grants and loans from the government and assistance in kind in shipments of

crude oil. In the 1987-1988 financial year, Arab countries received 45.7 per cent of loan commitments, with Africa countries taking 28.6 per cent, Asia 16.7 per cent, and others nine per cent, the daily concluded.

The "London Times" newspaper also published heretoday a special report on Kuwait.

In its two-page supplement the daily indicated that Kuwait's prospects have been transformed by the halt of the Gulf dispute which was fought out "more or less on its doorstep."

The Times emphasised that Kuwait has cause for "quiet satisfaction" at its present political position, so greatly improved since the ceasefire in the Gulf last August.

In a dispatch from Kuwait the French daily "Le Figaro" said for the first time in years, Kuwait celebrates its independence anniversary without missiles in its skies, mines in its seas and echoes of war on its northern frontiers.

Kuwait City, Le Figaro said, celebrates the National Day in its own way, with high rise buildings reflecting the azure colour of the bay that carries its name, and Californian style villas in the suburbs lit at night with colours of the national flag.

Accompanying these celebrations, Le Figaro said that two of the 17 convicted prisoners who carried out bombings in Kuwait in December 1983, were released after concluding their terms.

On the other hand, the paper said that Iran has indulged in diplomatic effort to improve relations with Kuwait which was viewed as an ally of Iraq during the eight years of the war.

lands and put an end to Israeli criminal and repressive practices there.

It also called for abrogation of the Camp David accords and non-recognition of Israel as well as stressing importance of opening Arab borders before the Arab and Palestinian fighters to liberate the occupied Arab lands.

The council also appealed for peace in the Arabian Gulf region which was made possible by Iraq's victories in the Arab eastern front, emphasising importance of full execution of the UN Security Council's Resolution 598.

In the context, it urged for prompt release of both countries' prisoners of war for humanitarian reasons, pointing to necessity of resolving all disputing issues between Iraq and Iran in order to achieve a lasting and just peace in the Arabian Gulf region.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Bahrain Airport Service plays significant role in promoting tourism to the island

ONE of Bahrain's leading companies is playing a significant role in promoting and developing tourism in the country and increasingly employing and training local staff, in view of the government's policy of boosting tourism potential, as well as maintaining the 'Bahrainisation' policy.

Bahrain's strategic position in the region as a commercial and cultural centre attracts a considerable number of visitors to the island through Bahrain International Airport. To specifically ensure smooth and efficient functioning of this vital part of call an organisation was formed by the government of Bahrain eleven years ago. Since then the airport has continued to expand rapidly, enhancing Bahrain's reputation as an important port of call in the region.

Comprehensive

Bahrain Airport Service (BAS) is a unique organisation that was formed to perform all ground handling functions of the airport for all airlines arriving in the island.

In an interview with the Arab Times, Robert Jarvis, deputy general manager of BAS, highlighted the company's role and activities. According to him, the company provides a comprehensive and up-to-date line of services to all incoming airlines and passengers on par with the highest international standards and quality.

"In line with the government's policy of boosting tourism we would like to constantly improve our services and productivity of the airport so that we can attract more airlines and passengers to Bahrain," said Jarvis.

Charter

He said over the last two years there has been an increase of charter operators to Bahrain, which is increasingly being used as a 'technical transit stop'.

"This proves that Bahrain is a very popular destination for all kinds of aircrafts and passengers. We are proud that we are able to serve the needs of both aircraft operators and passengers with our services," he added.

Apart from the services provided by BAS, the company is proud of having Bahrainis forming the bulk of its over 1,800 staff. At present Bahrainis form 76 per cent of the total workforce, an increase of about six per cent over five years. By the end of 1989 further increases of local staff by two per cent is anticipated.

At present BAS serves 35 airlines, including the national carrier Gulf Air. Charter aircrafts include Monarch Airlines, Air Europe and British Airways. The latter is the latest addition among major world airlines. A special service is also available to handle business and executive aircraft.

Departments

Services provided by BAS are divided into four separate departments and include Traffic Services, Cargo Services, Engineering Services and Aircraft Catering Services. Activities of all departments are well co-ordinated and are completely computerised.

The company boasts of a new air cargo terminal, which opened in October 1987. Facilities of the BD3 million complex include a unique mechanised container handling system.

As part of its development plans and to improve facilities, BAS will construct a new inflight catering centre which should be completed in two years. The new centre is expected to prepare 20,000 meals daily, twice the current number.

By the end of 1989, BAS will have its new headquarters comprising of 4,500 square metres and will be situated close to the passenger terminal of the airport.

Third World debt problem real catastrophe: Awadi

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 24, (KUNA): Kuwait expressed hope that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and its members responded positively to HH the Amir of Kuwait's proposal last fall to narrow the widening gap between rich and poor countries.

The Director of Technical Cooperation at the Kuwait Ministry of Planning, Mariam Abdulkarim Al Awadi, told the four-day special session of the UNDP governing council that opened on Tuesday that the debt problem represents a real catastrophe to the developing countries in general and the least developed ones in particular.

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah told the General Assembly last September 28 that creditor nations should consider writing off interest on their loans

to debtor countries, and possibly forego some payments of principal to the poorest nations.

Proposal

The proposal also urges the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank to reconsider their "stringent conditions" affecting countries seeking help from these two institutions.

Furthermore, HH the Amir asked for expansion and regulation of scientific and technical assistance from richer to poorer countries.

Awadi said the developing and least developed countries need UNDP's assistance very badly because of their bad economic situation and the increase of their debt crisis, leading to the worsening of their economic and social levels and the slowing down of their development.

Heart disease leading cause of death in Kuwait: WHO

GENEVA, Feb 24, (KUNA): According to statistics compiled by the World Health Organisation on Kuwait, 343 people died in motor accidents, there were 10 murders and 26 drownings in 1987.

The WHO's World Statistical Annual for 1988 just published here, is devoted in large parts to causes of death in different countries and showed that in 1987 a total of 4,287 people died in Kuwait—2,711 males and 1,576 females.

The leading cause of death was circulatory and heart diseases, which accounted for the deaths of 905 males and 473 females.

Another big killer was cancer, which took the lives of 291 male residents of Kuwait and 186 females, with the highest death rate being in the 45 to 64 years range.

Lung cancer alone caused 77 deaths in Kuwait in 1987, the statistics revealed.

Pneumonia was responsible for 219 deaths, especially among babies, with 39 boys and 36 girls under the age of one being carried away by the disease.

The WHO annual showed that 32 Kuwaiti residents died of accidental falls in 1987.

A further 14 were killed in burning incidents, there were 16 suicides and 18 deaths through accidental poisoning.

The book estimated Kuwait's 1988 population at 1,062 million males, and 810,000 females.

Despite the ravages of disease, accidents and other causes of death, there were presently around 3,000 male and 4,000 female residents of Kuwait aged more than 75 years, it noted.

Communications minister returns from visits to India and Singapore

KUWAIT, Feb 24, (KUNA): Communications Minister Abdullah Al Shabhan returned home yesterday following two official visits to India and Singapore.

While in India, the minister stated that he met with State Minister for Communications Bir Bahadur Singh and discussed with him bilateral co-operation, particularly in the field of telecommunications.

Shabhan said that he and the accompanying delegation

toured several Indian institutions such as the Communications Training Centre, telephone exchanges, manufacturing corporations and the Institute for Research and Development of Communications.

He indicated that his visit to Singapore was in response to an official invitation from Secretary-General of the International Union of Telecommunications to take part in the inauguration of the Asian Telecommunications Conference and Exhibition.

In loving memory of



Mrs Nayna Dasandi who left us all on 25th Feb. '88 "May her soul rest in peace" by Family & friends.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery
Until March 19: Recent paintings by British water colour artist Patricia Mills will be shown at the Ghadir Gallery, Salhiya Complex, mezzanine, Gate 5, daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8.30 pm.

Sultan Gallery
An exhibition of paintings by Bangladeshi artist Mounirul Islam is open at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St., daily except Friday from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

MUSIC

Veena Recital
FEB 25: 10 am. A veena recital will be given by Kanan, who is accompanying Dr Padma, at the IAC, Funaitees. Passes available at the entrance.

Red Army Choir
March 4/5: The Red Army Choir and dance ensemble will perform at the Andalus Cinema, presenting music, dance and ballet, with a selection of folk dances, Cossack and Armenian; plus choral singing. Tickets available at the Andalus Box Office.

EXHIBITION

Modern Kuwait
Feb 26 - March 8: The Kuwait University's Arts and Culture Department will hold a photographic exhibition on "Modern Kuwait" at the College of Commerce, Adeliya. It will be open on Feb 26 at 10 am.

Video films will be shown during the exhibition, which coincides with the Kuwait National Day celebration. The film schedule is as follows:

Feb 26 (10 am and 12 noon): Kuwait: The Road to Progress.
Feb 27 (9 am and 11 am): Kuwait: My Country.
Feb 28 (9 am and 11 am): Computers in Kuwait.

The documentaries will be shown at the Arts and Culture Department, College of Commerce, Adeliya.

SOCIAL

Indian Dance Recital

Feb 25 (6 pm): Dr Padma will give a solo-recital called "Jatayu Moksham" danced to Tchaikovsky's music. Performances will be held at the IAC, Funaitees. For entry passes contact 3904817.

Gayathri Arts
Feb 25: 10 am - 5 pm. The Gayathri Arts Organisation for Arts and Sports will hold a social event to celebrate the Nehru Centenary at the Indian embassy hall.

KAPILKU Night
MARCH 3: The KAPILKU Night at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Andalus Club, from 5 to 10 pm. A sing-alike contest and a singing competition will be held. Entrance - KD2. For details call Sarah Macarimbang. Tel: 4843447.

Daniella Rally
MARCH 3 (Friday): Daniella, the Danish association in Kuwait, will hold the annual family car rally. For details call Karen-Marie - Tel: 3715146.

Gala Dinner

MARCH 9: The Great Ormond Street Hospital Gala Dinner will be held at 8 pm. For details call 4831339; 5393151.

SPORTS

Mini Rugby

MARCH 3: Training game recommendations on Friday at the Alhamdi grounds; training starts at 10 am and mini-Rugby finishes at 11.30 am. For details call Hugh McAree - 5326368 or Geoff Bennett - 5332683.

Cricket Match with Veterans

MARCH 5: The Gulf Cricket League will hold a full-day cricket match for veterans at the EPI, Ardiya. Cricketers who played between 1950 and 1970 are eligible to participate. For registration and details call Sajid Raza 392-8493.

Tivim Centre

MAR. 5: The Tivim Centre will hold its second annual one-day seven-a-side football festival at Al Sour grounds. This will be followed by their second inter-village nine-a-side football tournament, beginning April 8. For details contact organisers.

Fun Run

March 17: 30 km fun run for teams of at Messilah Beach Hotel. Commences at 10 am. Registration is strictly limited. For details call Hugh McAree - 5326368 or Jon Evans - 5339867.

Raft Race

The third Kuwait Annual Raft Race will be held on May 26. Mens/ladies/mixed and carnival events. This year's rules and regulations are available from the Messilah Beach Hotel. The first captains' meeting will be held at the hotel on March 7 (6.30 pm).

Padma tries to blend Western music and Indian dance

Tchaikovsky as never seen before

By Fathima Ahmed

TCHAIKOVSKY'S music and Indian dance? An odd combination, perhaps. And the two did seem at odds at Thursday night's Indian dance recital at the Indian Arts Circle (IAC) but it was a remarkably interesting experience.

The strains of Tchaikovsky's symphony floated as the nimble-footed Indian dancer Dr Padma Subramanyam performed the Jatayu Moksham. The dancer's evocative body language described an excerpt from mythology - Jatayu Moksham - beautifully enacting the abduction of Sita by Ravana and Jatayu's (the mythical bird) end during the unsuccessful attempt to rescue her. But, at the risk of offending some, the twin shall never meet. Something was amiss - the music, perhaps. Tchaikovsky's music is decidedly Western. Padma's dance, undoubtedly, Indian.

Movement
Padma's choreography of Jatayu Moksham is an off-beat experiment trying to blend Western music and Indian classical arts. Yet, she did have to compromise on some movements like incorporating the footwork of kathak and ballet pirouettes. But her performance was faultless. Regrettably, the music seemed awkward. Some in the audience,



Dr Padma Subramanyam doing 'sringar' in Sita Kalyanam. (Photo by Mohammad Abbas)

however, believe that the experiment "revolutionised" Indian dance. Sceptics are not so sure. At least, Dr Padma has proved that Bharata Natiyam can be danced to Western music. Padma is a dancer with a

great sense of timing, movement and expression. Her performance was poetic, especially in the Varnam, in which she combined nritta (non-representational) and nritya (representational), danced to Meera's devotional lyrics. Padma's willowy movements and changing expressions spelled magic. The "mridangam" - footwork accompanied to contrast the high and low notes - was superb, so was her agility and style, bringing to life the temple sculptures.

In Sita Kalyanam (Sita's Wedding), an excerpt from Padma's ballet Ramaya Thubayam Nambana - the dancer concentrated an abhinaya (mime), delighting the audience with her command of harmonious movements and symmetrical postures.

Padma received spontaneous, often deafening, applause from the first night sell-out audience. Salome Al Sabah, director of the Kuwait Cultural Centre, was among the guests, including several diplomats.

Padma, who has earned a doctorate in Indian dance, was invited by the Indian Arts Circle to perform during the Nehru Centenary celebrations in Kuwait. Her recital was the high-spot of the year-long festivities planned by the IAC. Padma's last performance is at the IAC at 6 pm tonight.

TV CORNER

This week on KTV 2

SUNDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial

6.30 The Owl: a show for children

7.00 The Pursuit of Happiness: "Together Again". Professor Duncan enlists Dave to write a book on history.

8.00 News in English
8.10 The Hit Squad: "Catch it before it catches you" is the theme of this practical jokes series.

8.30 The Kindest Cut: Sunny and Rudy try to get rid of a guest Mimi brings home.

10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Rhapsody in Blues". Starring: William Conrad and Joe Penny.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

MONDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial

6.30 Chocky's Challenge: part 3. Chocky's children - Albertine, Mike, Su Ling and Paul - research cosmic energy.

7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news and views.

7.30 Perspectives: documentary

8.00 News in English
8.40 A Different World: "Romancing Mr Stone". Comedy

9.30 Rediscovery of the World: "Mountains from the Sea". Documentary.

10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Pen Pal"

10.30 French Feature Film: "Ca N'arrive Qu'a Moi". 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

TUESDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Noveltoons: cartoon

serial

6.30 Break Point: part 4 of series for young viewers.

7.00 A Finite World: "Mexico"

8.00 News in English
8.40 A Year in the Life: a family show starring Richard Kiley.

9.30 The Hit Squad: "Catch it before it catches you" is the theme of this practical jokes series.

10.10 The Kindest Cut: Sunny and Rudy try to get rid of a guest Mimi brings home.

10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Rhapsody in Blues". Starring: William Conrad and Joe Penny.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

WEDNESDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Transformers: cartoon serial

6.30 Prestige: "My Mother Was Never a Kid". The story of a girl who comes to terms with her mother's behaviour towards her.

7.30 Mutual of Omaha: "The New Zealand Deer Life". Part One.

8.00 News in English
8.40 You and the Law
8.55 Matlock: "The Court Martial". Matlock defends a soldier. Starring: Andy Griffiths.

9.40 Hooperman
10.10 People Do the Craziest Things
10.30 Feature Film: "Close Encounters of the Third Kind". (1977) starring: Richard Dreyfuss, Francois Truffaut, Melinda Dillon, Teri Garr. Sci-fi fantasy about friendly aliens touching base with specially selected earthlings. Suspense and humour blend as Dreyfuss and others disobey orders and try to

rendezvous with the extra-terrestrials. Director: Steven Spielberg.

12.35 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

THURSDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Real Ghost Busters: cartoon serial

6.30 Fairy Tale Theatre: "The Snow Queen"

7.30 T and T: "And Baby Makes Nine". Action.

8.00 News in English
8.40 The Oldest Rookie: "An Internal Affairs' Affair". Lt. Zaga is charged with theft. Tony and Ike help their boss prove his innocence. Starring: Paul Sorvino.

9.40 Incredible Sunday: incredible sportsman, artist and acrobats are featured in tonight's show.

10.30 Late Night Movie: "Captain". A pirate tale.

12.00 News summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

4.00 Holy Quran
4.10 The Sylvanian Family: new cartoon feature for children.

4.30 Italian Football
5.30 American Basketball
6.30 Star Trek: "The Arsenal of Freedom". Sci-fi adventure.

7.30 Face to Face: a local talk show, presented by KTV and hosted by Ali Noor.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Breaking Away
8.55 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore introduces this sports show on English League games.

9.40 Weekend: local programme on news and views about Kuwait.

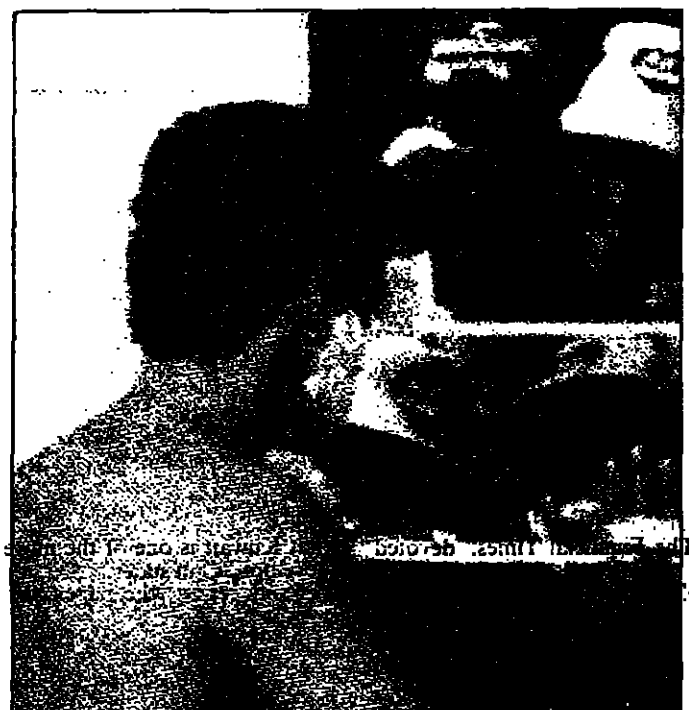
10.00 The Charmings: "The Charmings Go Plastic". Comedy

10.30 The Equaliser: starring Edward Woodward.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown



Tom Selleck plays Magnum, Sunday at 8.40 pm.



The Hit Squad, 9.30 pm on Tuesday.

rendezvous with the extra-terrestrials. Director: Steven Spielberg.

12.35 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Salem Pharmacy
nr. Sheraton, Fahad Al Salem St.

Al Sharq Al Jedid Pharmacy
Opp. Science Museum, Safat Square

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Sahab Pharmacy
Duaij Bldg., Othman St.

Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Al Shifa Pharmacy
Hmoud Anjari Bldg., Salem Al Mubarak St.

Fahaeel and Ahmadi
Al Sheba Pharmacy
Fahaeel

Farwaniya
Al Munawar Pharmacy
South Souk St.

Jahra
Al Abraj Pharmacy
Qitah 45, Block 7

SUNDAY
Kuwait
Al Sharkiya Pharmacy
Opp. Mawassalat Bldg., Hilali St.

Al Hakim Pharmacy
Jaber Al Mubarak St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Kamal Pharmacy
Tunis St.

Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Al Sahara Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.

Fahaeel and Ahmadi
Bastoor Pharmacy
Qais Al Ghanem Bldg., Dabbous St.

New Khaitan
Al Fahad Pharmacy
New Khaitan

Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.58 am
Zuhr 12.01
Asr 3.18 pm
Maghreb 5.45
Isha 7.02

SUNDAY
Fajr 4.57 am
Zuhr 12.01
Asr 3.18 pm
Maghreb 5.46
Isha 7.02

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Eedak Ya Watan: Your National Day Festival

11.15 Laila Wal Zo'ob: Arabic play for children, starring Huda Hussain, Sahar Hussain, Zahrat Al Khargi, Mohammad Al Ajmi

1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite

1.30 Operetta: "Fi Hub Al Kuwait" (For the Love of Kuwait), presented by actress Suad Al Abdullah

3.40 Nelly's: cartoon serial

5.15 Fanan Sagheer: Young Artists, prepared and presented by Mohammad Al Shaikh

5.45 Ibn Attiya: historical serial

6.40 Noor Al Islam
7.15 Security and Citizens

7.30 Live Broadcast of National Day Celebrations to be held at the Kuwait Towers

10.00 News in Arabic
10.45 Education Ministry Festival: featuring Shadi Al Khalij troupe

12.45 News Summary
12.50 World News via Satellite

1.15 Holy Quran/Closedown



Documentaries on Kuwait will be shown on both channels.

KTV 2

3.30 Opening & Holy Quran
3.40 Cartoons

4.00 Football: Al Kazma v/s Ismailia (Egypt)

6.10 Duck Tales: cartoon serial

6.30 Scheme of Things: "Farms Beneath the Sea"

7.00 Sea Urchins: the Coast Guard boats patrol the coasts in search of a missing boat

7.30 Throb: "The Concert." Sandy and Zach deal with a temperamental singer.

8.00 News in English
8.40 A documentary on Kuwait.

9.30 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records.

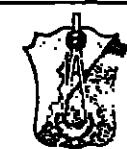
10.00 Special Variety Show
10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Jesse." Starring: Lee Remick, Scott Wilson, Richard Marcus.

11.30 News Summary Magazine D'Actualite: Holy Quran. Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



● Jashanmalls and Partners last week launched the Boucheron perfume in Kuwait, at a presentation held at the International Hotel. The perfume created by Alain Boucheron has been described as a 'very feminine and intimate fragrance.' Above: Boucheron displaying his perfume



KUWAIT UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ENG. & PETROLEUM
DEPT. OF CIVIL ENG.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Civil Engineering of Kuwait University is pleased to invite engineers and researchers to a lecture titled: "Water reuse in Kuwait - present and future trends"

Speaker : Prof. Mohamed F. Hamoda & Dr Edward Smith
Civil Engineering Department
Kuwait University

Date : Sunday, 26th February, 1989
Time : 6:30 PM.
Place : Kuwait University Faculty Club - Shuwaikh

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52 Surveying & Mapping
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22 Wildlife Conservation
18 Veterinary Assistant
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144 Practical English
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04 Auto Mechanics
16 Bookkeeping
02 Electronics
21 Secretary
06 Electrician
29 Police Sciences
32 Art
09 Legal Secretary
55 Diesel Mechanics
87 TV VCR Repair
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161 Engineering
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Story Writing
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOTHING is ever accomplished by a reasonable man — George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born playwright (1856-1950).

Havel fights for his principles

By Michael Wise

PRAGUE, (Reuters): Vaclav Havel, Czechoslovakia's foremost playwright who was sentenced to nine months in prison on Tuesday, was a dissident in his country before the 1968 "Prague Spring" and has been a leader of the protest movement ever since. Havel was charged with incitement and obstructing an official during a demonstration last month to mark the anniversary of the death of Jan Palach, a student who burned himself alive in 1969 in despair at the Soviet-led invasion which crushed the Prague Spring reforms.

Havel, a founding member of the Charter 77 human rights groups, was found guilty of subversion in 1979 and served five years of a prison sentence until ill-health, and appeals from intellectuals around the world, won him a parole.

Worries
His wife Olga worries about his health but says she has no doubt Havel is prepared to endure another sentence.

His plays, which are banned in his country, have been performed to critical acclaim in New York, Paris, London and Vienna.

But at home he has won popular esteem verging on that of Andrei Sakharov in the Soviet Union or Lech Walesa in Poland for choosing to remain in Czechoslovakia and fight for his principles.

Before his conviction in 1979, the authorities offered him a chance to leave for New York. He refused.

"The solution of this human situation does not lie in leaving it," he said. "Fourteen million people can't just go and leave Czechoslovakia empty."

In recent years many Czechoslovaks have come to regard Havel as the nation's conscience, a mantle he does not wear easily.

It is a theme he has treated with dark irony in "Largo Desolato, a play in which citizens afraid to speak out against the communist authorities voice boundless

admiration for an author who feels he has no choice but to do so.

"He is a symbol of hope for the future, a man who can articulate many people's feelings," said fellow dissident Martin Palous.

Over 1,000 cultural figures, many of them members of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, have signed a petition demanding his freedom.

Havel was mobbed for autographs after addressing a human rights rally in Prague last December. Modest and unaccustomed to public acclaim, he appeared genuinely terrified at the crowd and quickly left the scene.

"It is becoming evident," Havel once wrote, "that a single, seemingly powerless person who dares to cry out the word of truth and to stand behind it with ... his life, ready to pay a high price, has surprisingly greater power, though formally disenfranchised, than do thousands of anonymous voters."

When not in jail, Havel has endured frequent police harassment.

Raid
His flat, overlooking the Vitava River in central Prague, has often been raided by police. Last October they confiscated the computer on which Havel wrote his latest play "Renovation", which will be premiered in Zurich in April.

Havel is also a first-class essayist despite having been barred from higher education because of his privileged background as the son of a wealthy building contractor.

His "Letters to Olga," written during his first spell in jail, are a poignant record of prison life and a reflection on freedom and man's moral responsibilities.

"I could best help myself out of distress by simply ceasing to be a 'dissident'," Havel has written. "The point is what the dissident's flawed efforts and his fate tell us ... what they attest about the condition, the destiny, the opportunities and the problems of the world ... they are a warning, a challenge."

Calls for reshaping US aid programme

By George Gedda

WASHINGTON, (AP): A government report calls for a "radical reshaping" of US foreign assistance programmes because current aid concepts are based on a world that no longer exists.

"The challenges of today's problems, and tomorrow's, cannot be met with yesterday's solutions, suitable as they may have been to yesterday's problems," said the report, issued by the administrator of the Agency for International Development, Alan Woods.

The 158-page study said the aid programme no longer seems able to fulfill its original mandate of helping poor countries achieve the transition from dependency to self-sufficiency.

Somewhere between 1949 and the present, the concept of aid as a transitional means of helping countries become self-sufficient was lost, it said.

"Is today's US foreign aid fostering healthy development towards independent prosperity — or simply postponing the day of reckoning for governments unwilling or unable to take the politically painful steps needed for their own development?" the report asked.

Dependency
"All too often, dependency seems to have won out over development," the report said.

A principal conclusion of the report calls for "radically reshaping" future assistance programmes to face new realities and to complement the contributions to development of the US private sector in providing humanitarian aid, education and overseas investment.

This reshaping "must be both an immediate concern and a major long-term national priority. Nothing less will serve the national interests of the United States," the report said.

Woods told a group of reporters that no country has "graduated" from less developed to developed status in the last 20 years.

All this is in sharp contrast to the Marshall Plan of the late

1940s and early 1950s, when an ambitious US aid programme helped put Western Europe on its feet after World War II.

One problem highlighted by the report is that "succeeding Congresses and administrations, prodded by the dominant crises — and interest groups — of the moment, have piled differing and often conflicting foreign assistance objectives on top of each other."

This "dizzying" array ranges from winning friends for the United States, to alleviating poverty, to countering the Soviet Union and to finding markets for American farm products, the report said.

In a December speech, Congressman Lee Hamilton, a member of a bipartisan House of Representatives task force on foreign aid, said the 33 separate statutory objectives for foreign assistance "are so numerous that they do not provide meaningful direction."

"All of these 33 objectives may be worthy. I probably voted for most of them ... however, a programme that pursues all objectives risks accomplishing none of them," he said.

Complicating fulfillment of these objectives has been a decline from \$19 billion to \$14 billion in the foreign aid programme from 1983 to the present, Hamilton said.

Wood's report suggested that developmental success has less to do with foreign aid levels than with the internal policies of recipient countries.

Growth
"Where development has worked, and is working, the key has been economic growth," it said. "And this is largely the result of the individual nations making the right policy choices and making the most of their internal human and material resources."

The report said growth-oriented policies "are a constant among success cases, regardless of the level of aid they have received — which are sometimes greater and sometimes less than the levels received by developmental laggards."

Cold war is not yet over

Having enemies can be a hard habit to give up

By Christopher Hanson

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): The United States, pondering Mikhail Gorbachev's peace offensive, is finding that having enemies can be a hard habit to give up.

"Our major secret weapon is to deprive you of an enemy," senior Soviet official Georgy Arbatov said recently.

But the Bush administration has made clear it will not be deprived so easily, despite Soviet leader Gorbachev's call for a safer world of huge superpower nuclear arms cuts, big Warsaw Pact and NATO force reductions and blossoming East-West trade.

Many independent strategists think the cold war is all but over thanks to Gorbachev. But it appears their new thinking has yet to sway the administration significantly.

President Bush and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft have said publicly the cold war is not over. They have embarked on a major review of

US-Soviet relations that many expect will produce a more cautious, sceptical and conservative approach to Gorbachev than ex-president Reagan's.

As Scowcroft recently put it, referring to Gorbachev's arms cut proposals: "There may be ... light at the end of the tunnel, but I think it depends partly on how we behave whether the light is the sun or an incoming locomotive ... I think the cold war is not over."

Proposals
Reagan and Gorbachev had decided in principle to seek a 50 per cent cut in long-range nuclear arsenals at the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START). But Bush and Scowcroft, a START sceptic, have put the talks on hold as they reassess US objectives.

When Gorbachev announced in a December speech that he would unilaterally strip 50,000 men and 5,000 tanks from Warsaw Pact lines, many in Western Europe responded with delight.

But Scowcroft said the initiative showed Gorbachev was "interested in making trouble within the Western alliance."

Republican right-wingers are relieved at the new administration's conservative approach, having concluded that Reagan, who once condemned the Soviet "evil empire", had become too soft on the Russians, too trusting of Gorbachev.

Caution
Some administration officials argue that caution toward Moscow is warranted because the outcome of Gorbachev's reform efforts is so uncertain. His bold drive to open up Soviet society and reform the Soviet economy might backfire, they say.

The fear is that the free debate and relaxation of central controls that Gorbachev has fostered could spark rebellion among restive national and ethnic groups, leading conceivably to his ousting by conservatives opposed to his reforms.

But liberal arms control backers say Bush should move boldly to forge arms treaties while Gorbachev is in power, which would make it harder for any new Soviet government to reverse the détente process.

They argue that Bush must respond more affirmatively to Gorbachev or risk a serious rift with NATO allies, such as West Germany which is now resisting US pressure to agree to accept deployment of new short-range nuclear missiles.

Only 11 per cent of West Germans see the Soviet Union as a threat to peace, according to one opinion poll.

Opportunity
Former US ambassador to Moscow George Kennan — an architect of the post-war US policy of containment of Soviet expansion — wrote recently that Gorbachev had offered "the most favourable opportunity the United States has had in 70 years to develop a normal, constructive and hopeful relationship with the Soviet Union (but) our record may well stand questioning."

He said the US response to Gorbachev's peace initiatives had been "reluctant, embarrassed, and occasionally even surly."

According to Kennan, one underlying cause of Washington's coolness was a deeply ingrained habit of assuming the worst about Moscow.

"There has been the insistence of our military authorities that the extent of the 'threat' presented to us must be measured solely by our estimate of (Moscow's) capabilities, ignoring its interests or intentions," Kennan wrote.

Former US START negotiator Jack Mendelsohn said the inertia of Bush's arms control team stemmed from a lack of "creative energy" and a failure to see that profound, positive changes were actually taking place in the Soviet Union.

Fall
He argued that Washington failed to understand the West had in fact won the cold war because Moscow had come around to long-standing Western positions — reducing nuclear arms, cutting troops, relaxing the Soviet grip on Eastern Europe.

"We look terribly retrograde, hopelessly out of touch," he told

Reuters. Retired Admiral Eugene Carroll of the Liberal Centre for Defence Information, a think tank, offered a third explanation for the Bush team's lack of enthusiasm for Gorbachev: "We've got to maintain an enemy — the establishment profits from an enemy process."

If peace broke out and the cold war ended, he said, defence industries and consultants would lose contacts. The Pentagon's raison d'être would diminish. The US role as Western leader would begin to fade and politicians would no longer have the "Russian menace" as a political issue.

"Politicians thrive on enemies," agreed Washington psychiatrist Joe Novella, who said projecting a common enemy was a classic way to forge political support.

He said it was much easier, psychologically, to be on the side of the "angels" against the "devils" in a contest of white versus black rather than to admit that there are many shades of grey in a complex world.



East bloc communist parties facing real challenges

By Colin McIntyre

VIENNA, (Reuters): For the first time since taking power more than 40 years ago, East Europe's communist parties are facing a real challenge to their proclaimed right to rule alone.

As a communist governments across East Europe wage a losing battle against increasingly complex economic problems, reformers are calling with growing boldness for a widening of the decision-making process.

"The aim of the communists is to grab power and to keep it at all costs, while inventing fairy tales to convince the people that only they are capable of ruling," Yugoslav Frances Tomic said this month.

He was organising the founding session of Yugoslavia's first opposition party, the Social Democratic Alliance of Slovenia, which has made it clear it wants to challenge the communists for power.

While the momentum for this new surge of pluralism appears to have come from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his "glasnost" and "perestroika" reforms, some countries, particularly Hungary, have announced changes going well beyond

those envisaged by Moscow.

Gorbachev himself earlier this month dismissed the idea of a multi-party system in the Soviet Union as "rubbish" and "politically and theoretically unsound."

The idea has been a growing subject of discussion, particularly in the Baltic states where broad-based "popular front" organisations have emerged as alternative political forums to the Communist Party.

"The discussion is groundless," Gorbachev said. "A party system, a multi-party system — two parties, three parties — it's all rubbish."

But only a few days previously the Hungarian Communist Party had given the green light for the reintroduction of multi-party rule. Official policy until then had been for "socialist pluralism", never clearly defined, within a one-party system.

Party leader Karoly Grosz said after a special Central Committee meeting this month: "We reached the conclusion ... that we can no longer progress on this road."

While declaring a multi-party system was no guarantee against "subjective" mistakes, he said it would make them less likely.

However in a speech to the party Central Committee published several days later, Grosz also said the party would accept power-sharing only within strict limits, and cautioned that the move towards a multi-party system would be a long process.

Although this harder tone was explained by some diplomats as a necessary sop to hard-liners in order to win acceptance of the new policy, a number of big question marks still remain.

"The question is, does the Communist Party really want to share power," one Western diplomat in Budapest said. "And if so, how will it manage the transition to power-sharing. If not, how will it prevent it?"

In Yugoslavia, with its decentralised federal communist system, pluralism has in one sense already become a reality. It is commonly said the country has eight parties — one regional Communist Party in each of the republics and provinces.

Amid deepening divisions between the parties and a worsening economic crisis, at least a dozen alternative political groups have emerged in recent months.

Most have succumbed to official pressure to register with the communist-controlled Socialist Alliance as a mass organisation in line with the constitution, which bars opposition political parties.

But the Slovenian Social-Democratic Alliance, which stands for free elections and a multi-party system, has said openly it wants to challenge the communists directly for power.

Banned
Warned that the party would be banned unless it joined the Socialist Alliance, Tomic said a final decision on this would be taken in a poll of members.

In Poland the Communist Party has taken a major step towards pluralism by holding "round table" talks with the banned independent union Solidarity.

The government has agreed to legalise Solidarity if the union pledges to support economic and political reforms.

Faced with a worsening economic crisis in the country, the party also agreed at a stormy session last month to authorise independent associations, political clubs — discussion groups, not parties — and parliamentary groups.

The party has also offered the opposition several cabinet posts and up to 60 per cent of the seats in the Sejm (parliament) if a deal is worked out.

PLO pressures US to gain recognition from Israel

By David D. Newsom

WASHINGTON: The basic strategy of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its recent actions, including the opening of the dialogue with the US government, appears to be to achieve recognition by Israel through pressure on the United States.

The assumption seems to be that, once the US is convinced of the legitimacy of the PLO and its cause, Washington will induce Israel to deal with Yasser Arafat. This premise is open to serious doubt. Nevertheless, the greater prominence and legitimacy given the organization by official contacts with the US could lead to a change of attitudes in Israel.

The Palestinians believe firmly that the US, being the primary patron of Israel, can influence Israel's actions if it chooses to do so. This had led in the past to acts of terrorism against American citizens, both out of vindictive rage and a belief that such pressure will advance the Palestinian cause. The belief has led, also, to a public relations and diplomatic effort to gain the attention and sympathy of the American public.

Success

The recent decision of the US to talk officially with the PLO and to announce it in the context of advancing the peace process will, for many Palestinians, initially confirm their assumptions. The success of the PLO strategy, however, rests on three premises, each one of which is questionable:

● That the US shares with the Palestinians the objective of inducing the Israelis to negotiate with the PLO. This assumes that the commitment of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in 1975 not to recognize or negotiate with the PLO until the organiza-

tion met certain conditions was designed to bring the PLO into the peace process.

● That the Israelis will accept as valid the PLO positions and assurances presented in the official dialogue with Washington and conveyed to them through US diplomatic channels.

● That, once the US is satisfied with the sincerity of the PLO's attitude toward Israel and the peace process, the US will put pressure on Israel, including threats to cut aid.

The assumptions of the Palestinians in each of these cases may be wrong.

Persuade

The 1975 commitment of the US regarding recognition and negotiation with the PLO grew out of negotiations on the withdrawal of the Israelis from Sinai and efforts to convene a Geneva conference to settle the Arab-Israeli dispute. It was a means of reassuring Israel that the US would not deal separately with the PLO. It is not clear whether Washington ever intended or expected that the PLO would meet the conditions. Until recently, at least, US policy toward the PLO has been marked more by quarantine than by efforts to change the Palestinian approach.

Given the new government in Israel, still headed by Yitzhak Shamir, the possibility that the government will be persuaded to think differently about the PLO as the result of the US dialogue seems remote. Israelis on the right, certainly, want no part of Arafat or his organization. Despite strong evidence to the contrary, they believe they will ultimately be able to negotiate with King Hussein, together with Palestinians not associated with the PLO. For decades, Palestinians and

Arab governments have harboured the hope that, under some circumstances, the US will be prepared to threaten Israel with a suspension of aid to force the Israelis into a peace process. Not only is it unlikely that a US president on the US Congress would take such a step, but it is also unlikely that Israel would submit to dictates under such open pressure.

Obstacles
The decision by the US to talk formally with the PLO removes an obstacle to US diplomacy toward the region. Official talks and the removal of inhibitions on chance contacts can lead to a better US understanding of the Palestinian position and of the trends within the organization. Such contacts can also provide opportunities to discuss matters of direct interest to the US such as terrorism against Americans and to create a better comprehension of the possibilities and limitations of a US role in the peace process. The talks are likely, in themselves, to lead to a change in the Israeli attitudes to a US determination to pressure Israel.

The pressure that will ultimately bring the Israelis and the PLO together will not be through a manipulation of US programmes and relationships, but through a growing recognition in Israel and among the Jewish community in the US that only the PLO can speak authoritatively for the Palestinians, including both those in the Arab countries and those in the occupied territories. If that happens, the legitimacy afforded to the movement by the recent US action may have played a part. The PLO in the last analysis, however, must convince Israel, not the US — that peace can come only when it is recognised as the sole valid Arab participant in the peace process. The Christian Science Monitor

US, NATO confront Gorbachev dilemma

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Secretary of State James Baker has returned from a whirlwind tour of Europe confident the new US administration and NATO can manage both alliance problems and challenges posed by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

But he left behind an undercurrent of serious concern over NATO's direction and signs that US efforts to lead in key foreign policy areas were being eclipsed.

As Baker shuttled through 15 NATO capitals in eight days, he sought to play down a dispute between Washington and Bonn over updating short-range nuclear missiles.

He dismissed suggestions of a serious rift and said the problem would be resolved at a NATO summit expected in late May. But other NATO members took a more ominous view. West Germany "represents an emergency," said the conservative Italian newspaper Il Giornale. "It is the central point of the alliance, it risks breaking and upsetting it."

Dilemma
The dispute over new short-range missiles goes to the heart of the dilemma facing the 40-year-old alliance, whose goal has been to defend the West against Soviet military advances with West Germany as the front-line state.

It is part of the debate within NATO over how to respond to challenges from an imaginative Soviet leader who has launched a series of arms control and other initiatives and is widely seen in Europe as less threatening than his predecessors.

With Gorbachev apparently intent on ending regional conflicts and moving towards a

to many to be ill-timed.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl made that point dramatically when he declared ahead of Baker's visit that a decision on Lance could wait until 1991 or 1992.

The United States and Britain have supported the new missiles as a show of NATO resolve to maintain its defence until Soviet intentions are clear. Baker wants a NATO decision this year in part because Congress is unlikely to fund the new weapon without an alliance commitment to deploy it.

Baker's grueling trip, fulfilling a George Bush campaign pledge to consult early with the allies, was a politically shrewd stroke, viewed favourably by many Europeans.

"The allies are flattered that he would come all this way to see them individually," said a Turkish diplomat.

Behind
But during his trip the new secretary of state was confronted with foreign policy initiatives from the Soviet Union and Central American states that gave an impression the United States was being left behind.

Central American presidents reached an accord last week that may hold new potential for peace but Baker and his team seemed caught off guard and had no public reaction to it.

At the same time, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze embarked on a Middle East trip widely viewed as a sign of Moscow's determination to be a force in that region.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF KUWAIT

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Arab Times survey finds new generation rife with goals and expectations

Kuwaiti youth — optimistic about the future

By Diane Diaz

ON a bench in the courtyard of Kuwait University's Adalyia campus, two young girls dressed in abaya and hejab sit talking in the mid-afternoon sun.

One of the girls is a freshman — a newcomer to the idealistic world of higher education. The other is a recent graduate in political science.

They are timid and reserved when approached by an intruder who asks to talk them about their outlooks on life. They shyly invite the stranger to sit down, as they exchange sceptical glances. In a matter of minutes, the barrier breaks and the girls' emotions rise to the surface.

"I hope in the future to be famous," Nwayer Al Azmi blurted out, almost at once. The 23-year-old graduate spoke confidently and with perfect articulation.

With wide eyes and an eager, fast-paced tongue, Al Azmi went on to describe the Kuwait she envisions in the future. A Kuwait where "wasta" doesn't make a bit of difference. A Kuwait where expatriates don't play such a large role in the workforce. And, perhaps most ideally of all, a Kuwait where women are politically active.

"Al Azmi's hopes and dreams, her frustrations and disillusionments, reflect a new attitude rising within the ranks of Kuwaiti youth.

"The children today have a very different way of thinking," she said. "They will have a say in the future."

Al Azmi's freshman companion chimed in with, "Now it is very different from the past. Women can work in almost any work."

In more than 25 interviews with Kuwaiti young people, the Arab Times has found that the new attitude has seeped into all walks of life. From students and housewives to businessmen and politicians, the new attitude is everywhere. Without exception, the

youths showered their country with praise. They talked of the progress Kuwait has made since it gained independence in 1961, and gave optimistic appraisals of their prospects for the future.

"There isn't a person in Kuwait who doesn't love Kuwait," Al Azmi said. But, she added, there is still room for change.

"We want to offer to help our government," she said. "But they must give the women more duty. The government must care about us when we disagree. And the government should make it easy for us to get jobs without wasta."

Wasta — otherwise known as influence — is a sore point with a number of the people interviewed.

When the subject came up in a discussion with five Kuwaiti men in their early 20s, a cloud of animosity immediately filled the air.

The youths charged that wasta has infiltrated all aspects of Kuwaiti life. They said getting a driver's licence, a scholarship, or a job can be a major ordeal without the necessary wasta.

"You have to know someone higher up to get anywhere," one youth said.

Agreed

They agreed amongst themselves that wasta is such a way of life in this country, that their own qualifications and expertise mean little when it comes to getting the types of jobs they seek.

"One young man, Mahmoud Al Shemmari, told the story of a friend who has wasta.

He said the friend studied psychology at Kuwait University, then landed a top job in a large oil company, despite the fact that he didn't have the necessary qualifications. He said the friend was earning KD 1,200 a month more than three times the salary of a labourer. The friend had wasta, Al Shemmari said. "We with



A female Kuwaiti student: there is a new attitude rising within the ranks of Kuwaiti youth

expertise will end up working in a ministry."

The story of Al Shemmari's friend may or may not be true to fact. But the frustrations brought on by the concept of wasta are certainly real in the minds of young Kuwaitis.

Zeyad Al Sheran, a 26-year-old teacher at Kuwait University, tried to put the issue of wasta into perspective.

"They call it wasta," he said. "For some people, it is a problem. For others, it is a way of life. Unless it is stopped from the highest levels in the

country, nothing can stop it." Still, Kuwaiti young people tend to think this issue has a direct bearing on their prospects for a successful future.

"Kuwaiti students can't get any job," complained 21-year-old Rafea Al Shemmari, a student in Kuwait University's Faculty of Commerce. "They (the government) put you in a ministry and give you a salary, but you can't go on from there. You have to have wasta, or work you want," another youth added.

But do young Kuwaitis really want to work?

In recent months that question has come into sharp focus as university enrolments show that Kuwaitis seem to be shunning demanding technical majors.

Because the government guarantees jobs to all Kuwaiti citizens, the youth of this country have been charged with placidly accepting clerical jobs in ministries instead of seeking more demanding, skilled jobs elsewhere.

Last November, the university rector blasted male Kuwaiti students for being lazy and predicted that they will not be able to fill the growing number of technical jobs in this country.

"It's not true," said 23-year-old Ali Al Khilfi, who aspires to be a civil engineer. "We will work hard if there is work. We don't say no if the work is hard."

Statistics show that that is not always the case in this country. Only a small percentage of jobs in Kuwait are actually held by Kuwaitis.

According to the 1985 census, only 19 per cent of the workforce is Kuwaiti. More than 80 per cent of the jobs in this country are held by other Arabs and Asians. Less than one per cent of the workforce is European, American and African.

Campaign

The government is currently stepping up its campaign to reduce the number of foreign workers in this country, but the question remains: Will Kuwaitis be there to fill the void?

"Kuwaitis can't work in labour jobs," one young man said. "Kuwaitis want to be the boss first. They don't want to start from the beginning."

"We feel this is a problem we



Kuwaiti students in a laboratory: women can now work in almost any job

want to solve," said another Kuwaiti youth, adding that Kuwaitis are now more educated and need to find work in their fields of specialisation.

Most everyone interviewed agreed that Kuwait needs its expatriate workers. The majority also said they should be phased out gradually, and only after suitable Kuwaiti replacements are found.

"The youth of today say they want to work, they want to play an important role in the future of this rapidly developing nation, and they want to start now."

How much is realistic? How much idealistic?

Ask Al Azmi, the confident political science graduate. "It will probably take 10 or 20 years before women can get really involved in politics," Al Azmi said, adding that it is up to this generation to make changes for the future.

"One can't do it alone," she said. "I would need a group of people just like me, with the same thinking and the same hopes to make something happen."

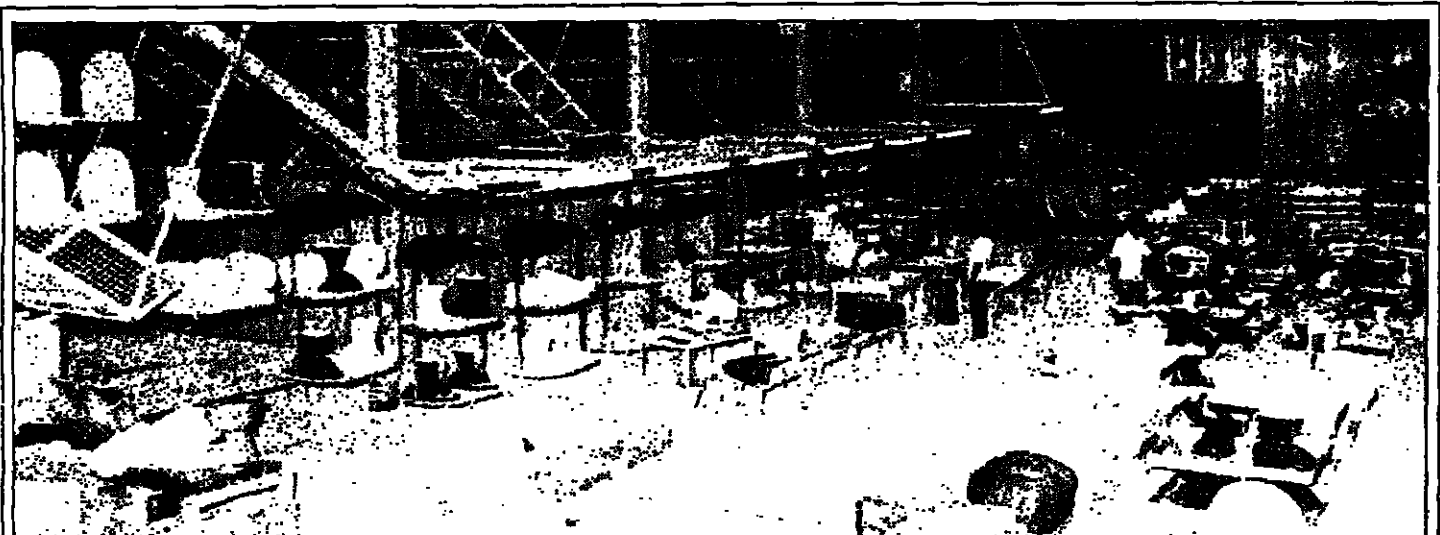
In the meantime, Al Azmi said, she won't work until she finds "a suitable job." Perhaps in a large petroleum company, or in the Foreign Ministry.

"But for that you need big,

big wasta," she lamented. "There is a big difference between what I want to be and what I see I can be," said the rational Mahmoud Al Shemmari.

"Don't forget that I love this country," he said. "But there are some problems internally. We will solve these problems. No one will solve them for us."

Another young man, Diya Al Tamimy, summed it up this way: "We have a strong hope for the future. We have started to look at the problems from inside ourselves. We will work harder, and Kuwait will have a wonderful future."



A light industrial plant in Kuwait. The outcome of consistent government policy to streamline the industrial sector has borne results.

Local industry makes progress

By Fathima Ahmed

KUWAIT'S industry has achieved remarkable diversity in the last 28 years. But policy-makers are now expected to re-examine industrial development in the light of the changing economic and financial environment.

Economists expect policy-makers to review industrial development and identify areas suitable for further development. So far, certain sectors like building materials, food and beverages and chemicals have earned success. The others are dragging their feet or simply went out of business.

Yet, local industry has achieved remarkable diversity. The sector now spans light industry, building materials, metallic products, oil-related products, plastics, chemicals, paints, gases, wood products, dairy farming, paper and paper products. There are more than 4,000 industrial units in Kuwait. Most are spread across the sprawling Shuaiba industrial area, established in 1964.

The government's emphasis has been to diversify, aimed at reducing reliance on oil. One vital long-term objective is to broaden the production base, consistent with the nature of the national economy and available human resources.

In 1985, the government took steps to protect infant

industry with a tariff shield and initial protection during the first three years of its life. The idea was to create an active and competitive sector.

The outcome of consistent moves to streamline the sector has borne results. Gross domestic product from the non-oil sector which was minus 38.3 per cent in 1986 was up 21.20 per cent a year later (1987), growing at a rate of 8 per cent.

Industrial output, including chemicals but excluding refining, rose from KD 205.4 million in 1976 to KD 448.4 per cent by 1986, the latest figures available.

Industrial output for food, beverages and tobacco products jumped from 37.8 million in 1976 to KD 101.5 million in 1986; output for wood products nearly doubled between 1976 and 1980 from KD 29.5 million to KD 43.3 million, sliding to KD 34.9 million by 1982. Output for wood products further declined between 1984 to 1986 from KD 32.7 million to KD 25.1 million.

Growth

The output of paper, paper products and printing was up from KD 11 million to KD 30.3 million.

The output for non-metallic mineral products jumped from KD 32.1 million in 1976 to KD 120.6 million by 1982, and then declined to KD 79.5 per cent by 1986.

The total industrial output, excluding refining, doubled from KD 205.4 million in 1976 to KD 448.4 million in 1986. Refining output was up from KD 563.2 million in 1976 to KD 1,083.4 million in 1986.

The industrial sector, despite its growth, has had a limited impact on the national economy, mainly due to high labour costs and shortage of trained national labour forces; limited home market consumption and shortage of raw materials.

Established

The recession, which began in 1982, had an adverse impact on the manufacturing sector evident in the declining credit facilities extended to industry by the commercial banks and the reduced number of projects financed by the Industrial Bank of Kuwait (IBK), set in 1973 to develop local industry. IBK financing fell from KD 32.3 million in 1981 to KD 25.3 million in 1983. By 1987, total IBK financing amounted to KD 296,372 or 51.49 per cent of total costs of KD 575,640.

In addition to infrastructure financing, the government gives a number of incentives and subsidies to local industry. Incentives include: industrial land at a nominal rent with long leases; electricity at subsidised rates; tariff protection and the imposition of quotas for competitive imports.

Economists said such protection for home industry will continue but the government will also consider the alternative between production and trying to discourage inefficiency in local industry.

Industries, established in the 1970s, like food canning, beverages and construction materials are doing very well. Other types of industries are "either out of business or dragging their feet."

"In some cases it is better to import because it costs twice as much to produce because of lack of raw materials," said an economist.

"If industry is to become really efficient, the government should open the market," he said.

The growth of industry depends on various factors: availability of manpower, raw materials and the relatively small home market.

Economists believe that the government should encourage "capital intensive industry which can rely on cheap energy and cheap labour" with active participation of the Kuwaiti labour force.

"Any other type of industry will not survive in Kuwait," they said, expecting planners to take a new look at industrial development in the coming decades. According to the 1989/90 5-year-plan, manufacturing is expected to grow at the rate of 5.8 per cent per year.

ARABIAN OIL COMPANY LTD

Extends sincere greetings and best wishes

To His Highness
Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad
Al Jaber Al Sabah
 Amir of the State of Kuwait

And His Highness
Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah
Al Salem Al Sabah
 Crown Prince and Prime Minister

and to the government and people of Kuwait on the occasion of

The National Day of Kuwait

Kuwaiti architect campaigns to preserve the city's historic architecture

Preserving the past with an eye on the future

ONE of the most striking transformations witnessed in Kuwait over the last thirty years concerns the architecture.

Today, the city is an eclectic kaleidoscope of primarily Western styles which have predictably enough, been alternately applauded and criticized by its citizens.

Kuwaiti architect, Ghazi Sultan takes the pragmatic approach to Kuwait's bold new look.

"In my opinion the design was superior in the past, however there is no doubt that today the engineering and materials are far more advanced."

In his role as one of the country's foremost architects and planners, Ghazi Sultan has consistently and loudly campaigned to the government regarding the importance of preserving and/or renovating the city's historic architecture. Unfortunately he has had only moderate success and, today, few of Kuwait's older vernacular buildings remain.

Demolished
"Throughout the Gulf, especially in Saudi Arabia, the same applies," he comments. "In Kuwait it was a great pity, for example, that we lost so many of the fine old homes along the sea front."

Fortunately, however, a few of

the latter managed to avoid being demolished and have subsequently been acquired by the government.

These include the 'Sadu House' which teaches and displays traditional Bedouin weaving and crafts, and one of the two family homes owned by the Al Ghanim family, now home for the Kuwait Society for Formative Arts.

As Ghazi Sultan explains, there is a subtle yet distinct difference between architectural conservation and renovation.

"When you preserve a particular building you have to decide whether you are conserving it as a part of history, or renovating the structure to be used today. If you choose the former the higher maintenance costs are an important consideration and the probability that one may not be able to use it because of the lack of contemporary technical amenities, such as air-conditioning."

For the past twenty years Ghazi Sultan has worked on the renovation of a number of old structures in Kuwait, including Law Courts building in the hub of the city.

The Law Courts were built in 1938 but have been updated to the present. For example, I duplicated the original architec-

tural details and quality of the building, including the arches, doors, windows, inner courtyards—and the overall space."

The latter are an intrinsic element of the traditional mud-brick homes once so prevalent in Kuwait. He reflects that, although they are still a pleasing architectural feature, open air residential courtyards are just not practical today.

"In the past, little or no furniture was used so the dust and sand were not major problems." (Another contributing factor to the demise of the courtyard is the universal use of air-conditioning....)

Differences
One of the most striking differences between past and present architectural styles concerns height. Formerly the houses of the old city were single storeyed, although later extensions were built at roof level.

These were of two kinds: shaded areas open on all sides to catch breezes and rooftop rooms for entertaining and relaxing on long sultry afternoons.

"For a considerable time the government imposed a three storey limit on housing," comments Sultan. "But now high-rises are a common sight throughout the city. The main problem with these structures is

the loss of the traditional scale of the old city and therefore the loss of its intrinsic local character, unique to each environment and each geographical area."

Private residences are a different story and Ghazi Sultan praises the overall architectural standard of homes now being built throughout Kuwait. He has personally designed many residences, as well as his better known commercial and recreational buildings.

Institutions
Over the years Ghazi Sultan has also worked on several institutions, including embassy of Kuwait in Morocco and Kuwait Society of Engineers (K.S.E.); the latter constituting the central headquarters and recreational club of the society.

Notwithstanding the above, Ghazi Sultan's best known design undoubtedly concerns the highly touted Waterfront Project.

The architecture co-ordinated with the US designers Sasaki Associates International and Kuwait Engineers Office in designing many integral features located along the 23 kilometres of coastline, including restaurants, amphitheatres, swimming clubs and service centres.

The Waterfront Project has been widely recognised as one of

the most imaginative, adventurous and entertaining leisure part throughout the entire Middle-East and, at an estimated cost of more than KD120 million, to date is taking more than ten years to complete. Why so long? Ghazi Sultan comments on the problem of the transient nature of foreign consultants.

Unfamiliar
"Most consultants from abroad are unfamiliar with working in the Middle East and although you may hire a prestigious and renowned firm, whom they send to work with you is a different story—they are most probably junior staff who have never worked together as a team before."

"The average turnover for a consultant staff is about two and a half years which means, in a project such as the waterfront, you are constantly having to deal with a new staff every few years which in itself can cause major problems."

About drawback is that most consultants do not perform the work here but come periodically which means they never become truly acquainted with the approach to building in Kuwait; what works and what doesn't and, most important, how to deal with the various government agencies."

Despite this dilemma—and the fact that virtually all major projects are required to have input from foreign consultants, there are an increasing number of qualified Kuwaiti architects and structural engineers here.

"Ten years ago there were only about seven or eight Kuwaiti architectural offices as opposed to eighty now...."

With new buildings seeming to spring up like mushrooms, we asked Ghazi Sultan which of these were his favourites.

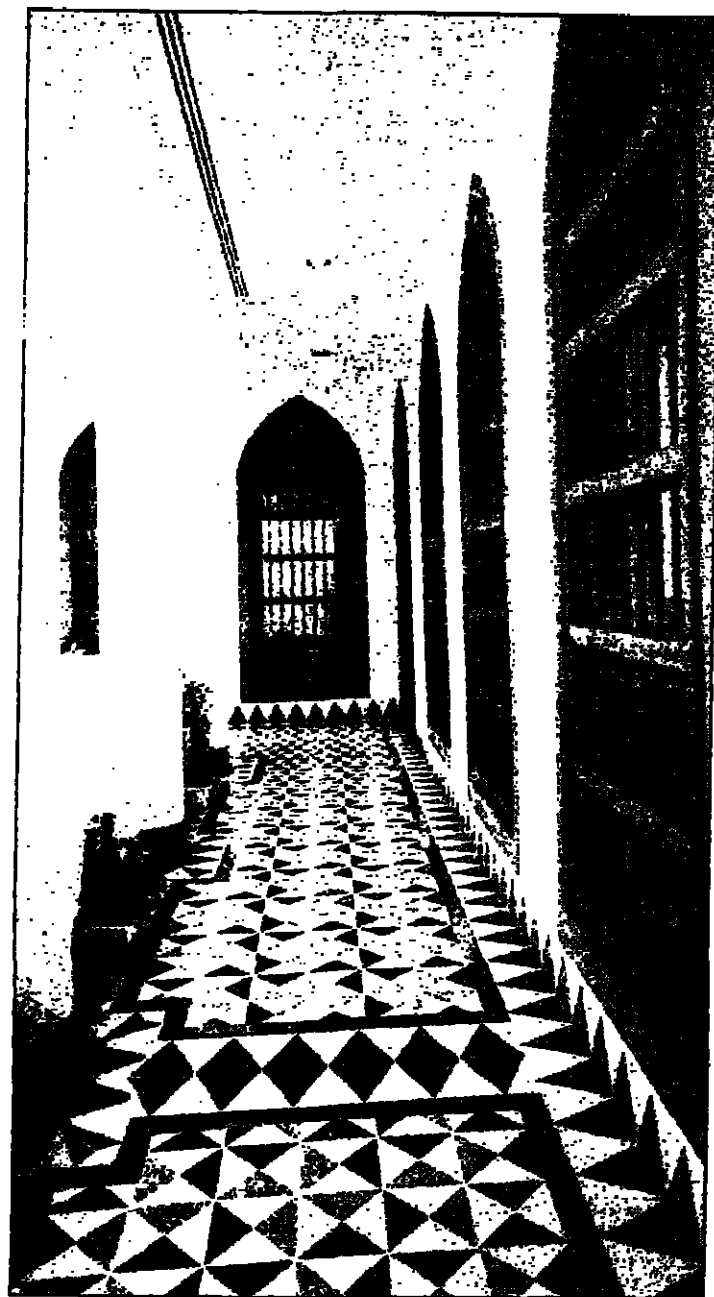
Architecture

"I like the Ministry of Foreign Affairs because it is in scale and harmony with the surroundings," he reflects. "The Finnish husband and wife architect team used the same locally manufactured sand-lime brick of which the old Sief Palace is made. The Conference Centre is also a very well executed building."

Are these examples of Islamic architecture? Ghazi Sultan's reply is decisive.

"Islamic architecture is really not a valid term because there are just too many Islamic countries throughout Africa and Asia with varying materials and climate. It is these which really dictate how a building should be built and not the religion."

Courtesy: Kuwait Digest



A view of the Law Courts in Kuwait. Islamic architectural features are reflected in this renovated building.

A comprehensive health service for citizens and expats

Kuwait has come a long way in the development of its health services. The Gastroenterology Centre which opens today is one of many additions to the fine tradition of health care in this country.

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE Gastroenterology Centre which will open today is one of the latest additions to Kuwait's most modern hospitals.

The opening of this centre is another landmark in the history of Kuwait's medical services. The centre will be open to patients next April.

Also during Kuwait's celebrations of the 28th National Day, the Salmiya Centre for Medical Specialisations will commence operations.

Kuwait is keen to preserve the health of its citizens and provides a comprehensive health service.

Kuwait has come a long way in the development of its health services since the inception of the modern health care programme which was first implemented in 1912, with the establishment of its first clinic.

Prior to and until 1961, the Ministry of Public Health (MPH) was operating on a departmental basis. In 1936, the first governmental health centre was established with the opening of a pharmacy. During the forties and with the onset of an increase of oil revenues, the standards of health services in Kuwait showed marked improvement.

Boom
The health department established at the Amiri Hospital and other centres was expanded. In the fifties, the health services witnessed a boom in the number of hospitals opened—such as the Psychiatric Hospital in Qibla, the Chest Diseases Hospital in Sharq, Out Patients Clinic in Sulaybiyah and other health centres such as the preventive health, school health, health awareness and four motherhood and childhood protection centres in Dasmah, Hawalli, Murqab and Fahaheel.

The structure of the health department changed and included two sections—one for preventive health and the other for the treatment section.

In 1961, when Kuwait obtained its independence, the health department became a Health Ministry offering health services to locals and residents.

By the end of the sixties, a comprehensive planning system emerged to encompass a wider range of new economical and social plan. This was followed by another attempt in the mid-seventies. However, such attempts did not result in a comprehensive development plan to bring about an executive plan.

Nevertheless, the ministry was successful in opening seven hospitals in Farwaniya, Jahra, Adan, Mubarak Al Kabeer, Ibn Sina in 1981, followed by the Al Razi Hospital and the new Amiri Hospital in 1984.

Plan


During this period, officials drew up a plan distributing health services to five different health districts which included Adan, Farwaniya, Mubarak Al Kabeer, Amiri and the Sabah Centre for Medical Specialisations.

The plan was implemented in two stages—one from 1979 to 1981, which envisaged integrating the final plan of all health protection in the country; the other in 1982, the plan was revised to take into consideration the need to link health with general development plan of the country.

The second medium- and long-term plan offered is to ensure the vital role of health planning and development by establishing medical facilities to cater to the needs of the population until 1990.



Patients wait for treatment at Al Sabah Hospital.



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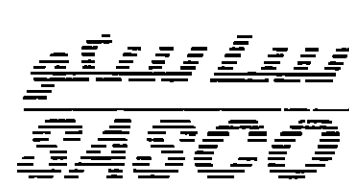
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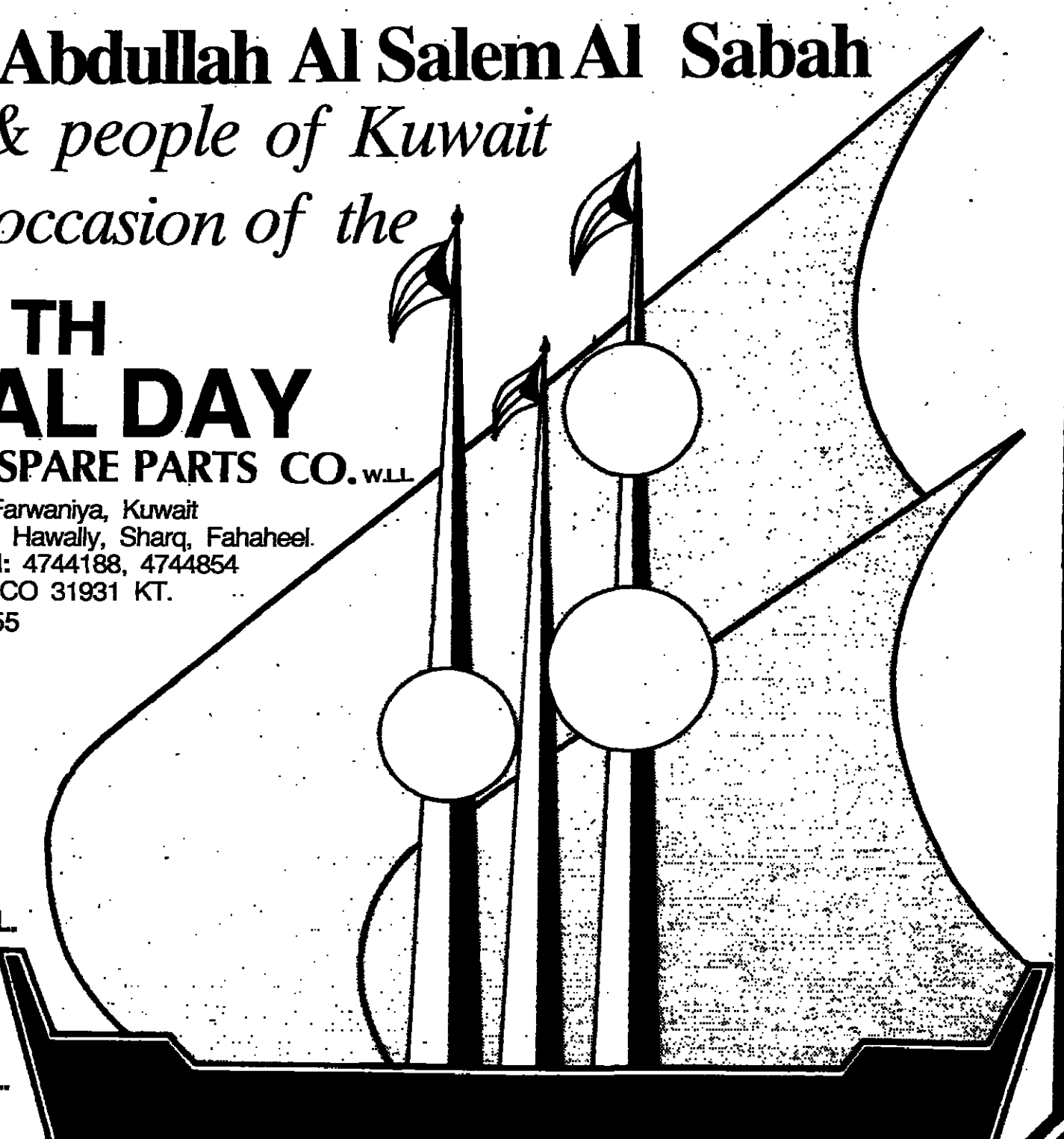
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Kuwait Fund is one of the largest aid-giving bodies in the world in relation to GNP

A helping hand for those more unfortunate than Kuwait

IN the northwestern African country of Mauritania, drinking water is in short supply. During the dry season, hundreds of villages have virtually no water, leaving the people and their grazing animals to eke out whatever meagre existence they can manage.

The story is not new. And, lamentably, Mauritania is not alone in its plight. Nearly every African government can tell horror stories of severe droughts that bring on famine and death.

What can be done about it? How do underdeveloped countries like Mauritania bail themselves out of the abyss?

According to Kuwait's philosophy, these countries need outside help. And to back that philosophy, Kuwait readily puts up cash.

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development is the primary aid-giving body in this country that is working to help the Mauritanians of the world.

The fund's aid extends beyond Western Africa to other countries in need of development assistance; from neighbouring Iraq to the nearby Yemenis, and across Asia from Turkey to Pakistan, India, and China.

With a capital of KD 2 billion, the Kuwait Fund ranks as one of the largest aid-giving bodies in the world in relation to gross national product, though Kuwait itself is still considered a developing country.

The fund's projects in 64 countries vary from repairing and lengthening a runway in the Maldives and developing the pharmaceutical industry in Egypt to enhancing rural water supplies in Western African nations and drilling oil wells in Oman.

"We look for small scale projects that can some return for the governments (of developing countries)," said Hesham Al Woqayan, operations director of the fund.

He explained that the fund's primary goal is to provide technical assistance to developing countries in the areas of energy, agriculture, transportation and water supply.

The fund does not deal with social projects, such as housing and education, he said. Those projects are funded through Kuwait's various ministries, though the Kuwait Fund will occasionally agree to administer those types of projects on behalf of the government.

For example, Mauritania is receiving KD 2 million in housing assistance from the fund, though it is a project of the Kuwaiti government. It has also received funding to build 225 open wells, a Kuwait Fund project that will supply water to 125 villages during the dry months.

Other countries receive similar help.

The fund invites applications for assistance from all developing countries, Al Woqayan said, adding that the least developed nations receive the highest priority from the fund.

"We think Africa must have the most priority," Al Woqayan said. "Even Asia doesn't have the same problems. They deal with floods, but their food supply is more organised and secure (than in Africa)."

However, even the most needy countries must meet the fund's criteria for aid approval. That means each applicant must submit a proposal for a project, detailing the priority items if there is more than one, include a feasibility study that outlines the project's chances for success, and prove that the funding for the project is secure.

The Kuwait Fund policy stipulates that Kuwait should not fund more than 50 per cent of any given project, and it should not fund more than one project at a time in any given country.

The recipient country is responsible for setting its priorities on which project should receive immediate attention and it must secure the other half of the money from other sources or its own government.

Again, in the case of Mauritania and several other countries, Kuwait has agreed to help with more than one project and provide more than a 50 per cent share.

"Of course there are some exceptions," Al Woqayan said. "When we are dealing with such an essential thing as water, we don't go strictly by the rule."

Disbursed

Thus, the KD 2.5 million loan that Mauritania received for the water supply project, will cover about 90 per cent of the cost. The government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania will provide the rest.

The terms of foreign aid disbursed by the Kuwait Fund vary from project to project. As with most aid institutions, the fund offers both grants and loans,



China: the Shaquikon hydro-electric project

though the grants are restricted to feasibility studies.

If a feasibility study shows that the given project is not worth undertaking, then the Kuwait Fund writes off the amount it paid out for the study. If the study shows that the project is viable, the Kuwait Fund will include the cost of the feasibility study in the overall loan it grants to that country to carry out the project.

Loans are repayable at interest rates ranging from 1.5 per cent to 6 per cent, with anywhere from six months to three years grace period. Once payment has commenced, the loans must be paid off within the stipulated time

frame, usually not exceeding 40 years.

The terms, according to Al Woqayan, are generous and leave enough room for struggling countries to cope with their debt burdens. He said Kuwait does not fund projects that will leave an already shaky economy in a worse situation.

For example, he explained that the fund has stayed away from funding projects in Latin America because of the debt crisis.

"We must look at the consequences the aid will have on the countries," Al Woqayan said. "There would be no point entering that region (Latin America)

Kuwait can be justifiably proud of its foreign aid programme. The primary aid-giving body, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has participated in 340 projects in 64 countries both inside and outside the Arab world. In spite of shrinking oil revenues, Kuwait continues its assistance programmes, independent of politics, religion or race. Diane Diaz reports.

because they need more than Kuwait Fund help. It would be like a drop in the sea. Their problems are too great."

He said Kuwait has also held back in Latin America because the fund's resources have shrunk considerably in recent years.

"Now that money is scarce we need to make the best use of it," Al Woqayan said, adding that African countries like Madagascar, Mozambique and the Comoros Islands have more urgent needs than Latin American countries.

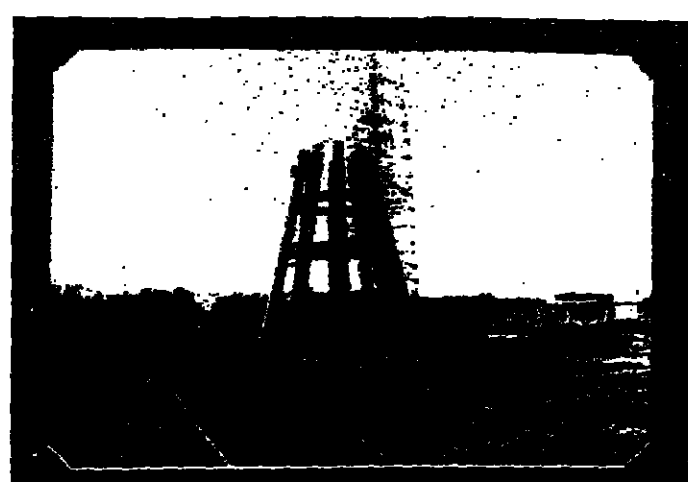
"We look to help the least developed countries," he said. In the mid-70's Kuwait was the eighth largest foreign aid donor

in the world. Dollar for dollar it ranked only behind the United States, Saudi Arabia, France, Germany, USSR, Japan and the UAE.

At that time, Kuwait was giving 6.91 per cent of its gross national product to foreign aid, or about \$1.4 billion dollars, according to the 1988 OPEC Aid and OPEC Aid Institutions Profile.

The scope of the fund's operations had expanded in 1974 to include countries outside of the Arab world, spurring rapid growth of the fund's operations.

Yet, since that time the resources available from the fund have diminished dramatically.



Pakistan: Quetta and Gadari potable water supply project

For example, in fiscal 1987 Kuwait's global aid contributions dropped to one of its lowest levels ever. The entire nation provided \$491 million in foreign aid — or 2.1 per cent of the gross national product.

The sharp decline in aid money reflects shrinking oil revenues in Kuwait. It is a trend that has affected all of the OPEC aid giving countries.

Even Saudi Arabia, which still ranks as the largest foreign aid donor in relation to GNP, has seen a huge drop off in its contributions. In 1975, Saudi gave just over 8 per cent of its GNP to foreign aid. By 1987 that figure had decreased to 3.7 per cent.

Many industrialised countries, whose revenues are not closely linked to oil, now have less money to give as well.

The United States, traditionally considered the world's aid-giving giant in terms of dollar amounts, has taken a back seat to Japan. As a percentage of gross national product, US aid is down to less than 0.3 per cent — an all time low for the US and lowest among Western nations, according to a recently published report.

Though the American aid, at about \$9 billion a year, dwarfs the amount put out by Kuwait, the money is not nearly as evenly disbursed.

Since 1977, Israel and Egypt have received the lion's share of the American money — nearly 50 per cent of all US aid.

Since 1979, those two countries plus Turkey, Pakistan, Greece, El Salvador, the Philippines, Spain, India, and South Korea, have received about 70 per cent of all US bilateral aid.

Kuwait prides itself on its widespread foreign aid involvements. The Kuwait Fund alone, has participated in 340 projects in 64 countries, both inside and out of the Arab world.

"The Kuwait Fund is open for anyone," Al Woqayan said. "East and West can participate in our projects. It does not depend on politics, religion or race."

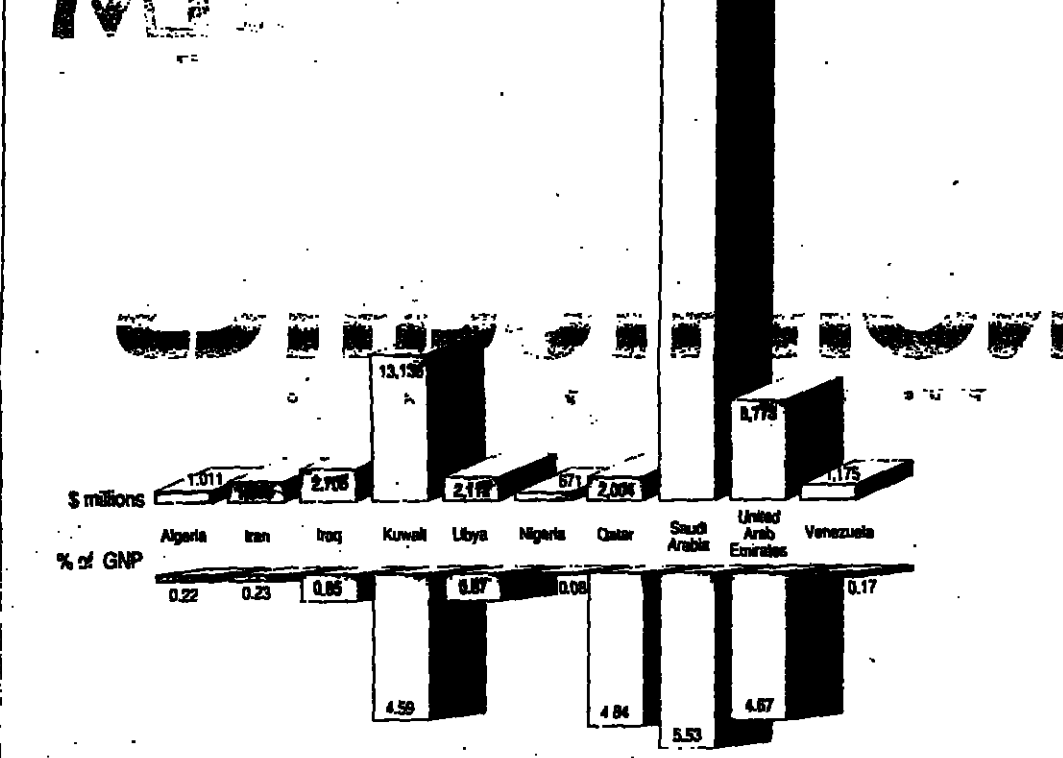
Foreign aid may be shrinking, but Kuwait's commitment has not. Because of oil prices, the government does not hand over as much cash as it used to for capital investments. However, the fund is taking steps to make up for those losses.

Recently, the government passed a law that gives the Kuwait Fund permission to use its own reserves. The fund has since started to use the money brought in from loan repayments and investments to boost its resources.

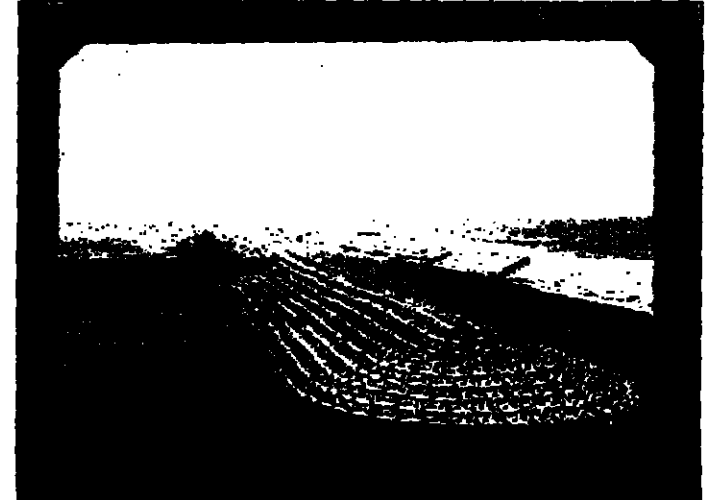
That way Mauritania and other nations around the world are sure to get a helping hand from Kuwait when they need it the most.

Where Kuwait stands in aid disbursement

Net ODA disbursements by individual OPEC countries, 1973-87



Tanzania: Mtera hydro-electric power project



Egypt: Rasheed promontory shore protection project



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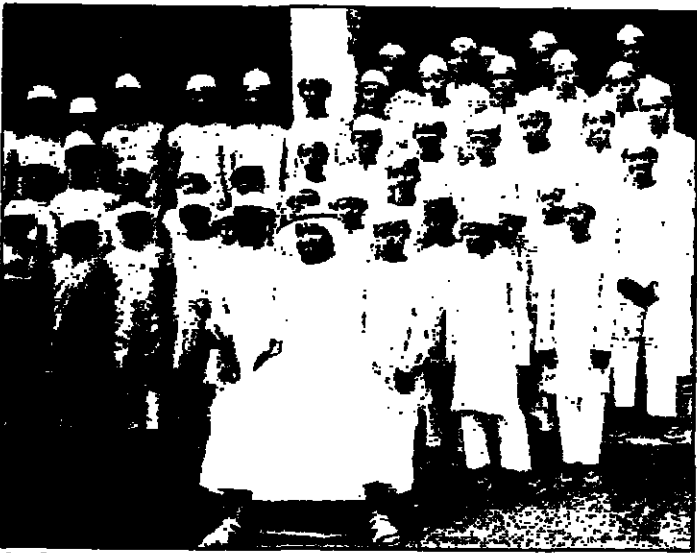
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A school for orphans: the objective of the programme is to ensure that the orphan is given every opportunity to become a good, productive citizen.

Help for orphans around the world

One of the major projects organised by the Beit Al Zakat, a charity organisation in Kuwait, is the orphan sponsorship programme which involves financial help for nearly 13,500 orphans in twenty-four countries. It is the only scheme of its kind in the GCC countries.

AL ZAKAT is literally translated as almsgiving and, as such, constitutes one of the five pillars of Islam.

Throughout time the Kuwaitis have been thus accustomed to helping the less fortunate members of the community.

In 1928, Beit Al Zakat (house of almsgiving) was officially founded by Amiri Decree number five. Essentially this served to organise the legitimate collection and distribution of Zakat under the supervision of an independent public body.

Although alms giving still remains essentially voluntary, there are several committees and societies which co-ordinate the collection and distribution of Zakat and donations for charitable purposes.

In addition to donations from

individuals, companies etc. the government make a sizeable contribution each year in support of Beit Al Zakat.

One of the major projects organised by the charity, however, is the Orphan Sponsorship Programme which was founded in October 1983 and is currently managed by Nouri B. Naseeb.

"The Orphan Sponsorship Programme is the only scheme of its kind within the GCC countries," he comments.

Project

"This project operates throughout Africa, Asia and the Middle East. There are a total of twenty-four countries involved with approximately thirteen thousand, five hundred orphans sponsored. This number is increasing daily."



An orphanage in Somalia: the Beit Al Zakat works in conjunction with local charitable organisations in various countries.



A doctor attends to a child in a medical clinic in Africa. The amount concerned for sponsorship varies between KD7 and KD30 according to the country.

What is the primary objective of the programme?

"The most important goal is to ensure that the orphan concerned is given every opportunity to become a good, productive citizen. In order to achieve this objective we take care of him (or her) from a social, educational and health point of view."

Given the physical distances involved, we asked Naseeb how such exacting considerations could be achieved without constant personal supervision.

"First of all, some of our sponsored orphans are already placed in orphanages," he replies. "We work in conjunction with the local charitable organisations and societies who will supply us with regular updates on all the orphans' progress."

In some places, Beit Al Zakat also has an office whereby one of our representatives will make monthly visits to the orphanages concerned within this area. In other words, if we are not able to undertake this, we arrange the supervision to be done on our behalf.

He explains that there are certain religious conditions involved in the definition of an orphan.

"For instance, according to Islamic beliefs a child is no longer considered an orphan when he reaches puberty. As this varies with everyone, we established eighteen years as the maximum age. Another difference from charities elsewhere is that a child may be termed an orphan, even if his or her mother is alive, as the father is viewed as being the

supporter."

Naseeb adds that support may still be received after the age of eighteen, depending on negotiations with the concerned sponsor.

This relationship, he explains, is frequently a binding one. "The sponsors often ask concerned questions," he reflects, "... such as are they still in need. They exchange letters and every quarter a report is sent of the child's health, education and social progress, together with a photograph."

Inevitably, given this involvement many of the sponsors arrange to visit their sponsored child; something which is not permitted in many similar European charities.

"We have many families who visit their orphan and all the arrangements are made from here. Someone from the orphanage will collect them from the airport and they can spend plenty of time just getting to know the child. Naturally, after such a trip many families come to me to ask if they can bring the child to Kuwait. Unfortunately, due to a number of factors this is rarely possible."

"It is similarly difficult for us to arrange for the orphans to even have a short vacation in Kuwait, or elsewhere, with their families — although this is also frequently requested by the latter."

The amounts concerned for sponsoring an orphan vary from approximately seven to thirty Kuwaiti dinars according to the country.

"Some persons have sponsored up to two hundred children!" reveals Naseeb.

The sums of money are collected monthly or annually in a number of ways. Many of the sponsors will mail or drop by the office with cheques while others have the sum automatically deducted from their bank account.

What happens if, for one reason or another, a sponsor just stops making the payments? Does the concerned orphan suffer?

Said Naseeb "naturally this does occasionally happen and, in this case, the orphan will be sponsored by another person. However it is one of our chief aims that this Orphan Sponsorship Programme be self-financed and to achieve this goal, a portion of the money is being re-invested into some productive projects. Already

this is proving successful in several countries.

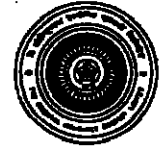
Beit Al Zakat's Orphan Sponsorship Programme is advertised via the mass media, including television and newspapers. Brochures and general literature are also being translated into English to enable more people to be aware of the project's existence and purpose.

"If people wish to make a donation, but cannot afford the sum of seven Kuwaiti dinars monthly then whatever they can manage will be used for another purpose, such as the building of actual orphanages. Currently we have funded several including one in the Philippines and one in Pakistan."

"I certainly find the work

very personally satisfying. Many of our orphans are already making a success of their lives and are continuing their studies at universities. We are expanding all the time and hope to have regional offices in all the countries where we are sponsoring orphans in the near future."

Courtesy: Kuwait Digest



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A Kuwaiti technician at work in a laboratory.

Planning for the future

Science, technology for Kuwaiti graduates

By Lima Al Khalafawi

PREPARING qualified and skilled Kuwaiti manpower by creating opportunities for higher education and specialisation in every field, is the main objective of the Ministry of Higher Education said Dr Ali A. Al Shamlan, the minister of higher education. This should be in accordance with the country's needs and development, he added.

A new statistical field study to determine requirements of the country in all sectors needs to be carried out, he said and added that "such a study should be based on clear defined scientific methods."

The minister said that premises for the new ministry have been rented and are presently being renovated. The work is expected to be completed within a few weeks.

To facilitate the various establishment and organisational aspects of the ministry,

In accordance with the country's needs and development, the Ministry of Higher Education is formulating plans for supplying qualified and skilled Kuwaiti manpower in every field.

a number of committees have been formed. Among others, there is a committee to work out the higher education law, another for preparing charts for scholarships and cultural affairs, and a committee to provide the minister with consultations and specialised studies.

The minister said that the consultative committee comprising the deans of colleges and professors in various sciences is studying the setting up of the personnel structure at the ministry. Presently, the ministry may acquire some specialists on a temporary basis to undertake urgent work. Permanent staff will be

employed on a gradual basis, he added.

Shamlan said that a decision has been taken to transfer the department of scholarships from the Ministry of Education to the Higher Education Ministry. This is expected to be implemented as soon as the new premises of the ministry have been completed.

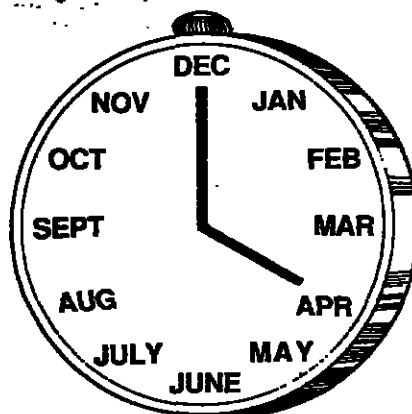
A financial committee has also been formed to prepare the budget of the new ministry for the year 1989/1990 fiscal year.

The main aspects of the budget will concentrate on the completion of the ministry's building, formation of the ministry's department and providing

advanced equipment. The budget will also concentrate on the establishment of an information centre which will use advanced computers operated by specialists. The budget will also provide for scholarships to a number of students who will be sent abroad at the expense of the state in accordance with the scholarship plan.

Shamlan said there are also plans to open new cultural offices in a number of friendly countries. Co-operation will be extended to the public and private establishments in the country in the fields of scientific research, vocational and professional training and in translation and publication.

The ministry will also contribute to the training services that help transfer new science and technology concepts to graduates. The ministry will also consolidate the cultural and scientific ties with Arab and international universities and institutes, Shamlan said.



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A schoolboy hoists the old flag of Kuwait.

KUWAIT, previously known as Kut, was founded by the Bani Khalid tribe to take advantage of its strategic position at the head of the Arabian Gulf. Though at first it was a summer resort, by the end of the 18th century it developed into an important port.

The Bani Khalid tribe, went on to build new cities on the Arabian Gulf. Although they did not own a powerful naval force, they managed eastern Arabia competently and peacefully, and gained the confidence of all local dealers.

Kuwaitis inherited Bani Khalid's principles, kept their country in peace, and encouraged road and naval trade. They built Kuwait into one of the most significant harbours in the region at that time.

The absence of a major power in the Gulf region helped Kuwait by ensuring the free passage of trade. Local powers were too involved in their own problems, to create any obstacles.

Bombay's government officials, Hardford Jones Brydges, said in a report to the British government, that Kuwait's port could hold the entire British Navy.

Kuwait's position on the desert trade route between the Gulf and Syria also brought prosperity. Many foreign trading companies, such as the British East India Company, preferred to sail from India to Kuwait or Basra, and from there take the desert route to Aleppo or Latakia, and then on to Europe.

Later, these companies sailed from India to Suez and travelled by road to Alexandria, and then to Europe for security reasons. They were protected from assaults by Kuwaiti communities and the tribes scattered along the trade route, in return for small fees or gifts.

Historians differ over the date of the foundation of Kuwait City. Some maintain it was built in 1611, while others say 1688. However, they are unanimous that the period 1750-1752 saw the beginning of the Al-Sabah rule over Kuwait. Their leader, Sheikh Sabah Bin Jaber, was elected to rule the country.

Wise rulers usher Kuwait into an era of superabundance



A view of Kuwait in 1914.



The skyline of Kuwait City in 1989.

Historians also agree that the year 1758 marks the beginning of stability within and around the city.

In the second half of the 18th century the Kuwaitis constructed walls around the city to protect it against aggression.

Expanded

They developed and expanded their city until 1762, when Sheikh Abdullah Bin Sabah, succeeded his father. As the country remained stable and government affairs were being gradually organised, the East India Company chose Kuwait as a location for its premises.

At the close of the 18th century Kuwait was one of the most important commercial centres and ports in the Gulf. Between 1775-1779 Kuwait became a major station for caravans transporting goods from Basra and India to Aleppo, when British-Iranian relations deteriorated.

Sheikh Abdullah's rule lasted until 1813, when he was

succeeded by Jaber the First, who governed the country between 1815-1859.

Although Sheikh Jaber maintained good relations with the British, he also extended military assistance to the Ottomans in order to suppress the civil strife in Basra. During his rule, the East India Company set up its office in Kuwait between Dec 15, 1821 and April 19, 1822.

It is said that during that period Kuwait was capable of self-defence as it could enlist 5,000-7,000 armed men, and apart from its victory over the few attacks that occurred, Kuwait kept its independence and kept away from armed conflicts.

The British traveller J.S. Buckingham wrote that "Kuwait kept its independence even when Hormuz, Muscat, Bahrain, and Al-Hasa were ruled by foreigners."

In 1868, Kuwait's inhabitants numbered between 15 to 20 thousands, 4,000 of whom were sailors, and the city expanded

beyond its walls. As a result of the population growth, the country was able, during the rule of Sheikh Abdullah the Second (1866-1892), to send a naval fleet to assist the 1871 Ottoman expedition to Al-Hasa and Qatif. Sheikh Abdullah led the Kuwaiti fleet while the cavalry force was commanded by his brother Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah.

The two brothers remained in Al-Hasa during the expedition which lasted two years, and were joined in 1872 by their other brother, Mohammed Bin Sabah.

Following the Al-Hasa expedition, the Ottomans welcomed Kuwait's support lest their influence in the region should be affected.

Conspiracies

Sheikh Mohammed Bin Sabah assumed power in 1892 following the death of his brother Sheikh Abdullah, amidst conspiracies by rival forces to impose their influence upon Kuwait. Kuwait sent another mission in 1893 headed



A money-changer in the old days.

by the ruler's brother, Sheikh Mubarak, to help end riots in the Al-Hasa region. In spite of the deaths of Sheikh Mohammed Bin Sabah and his brother Sheikh Jarrah in 1896, and assumption of power by Sheikh Mubarak the Great, the same year, Kuwait continued to enjoy stability.

In Dec 1898, the Ottoman government granted Russia the concession to build a railway from Tripoli via Homs and Baghdad to Kuwait. The Ottomans also contacted the Germans to build the railway.

The British secretary at the Foreign Office tried to sign an agreement with Sheikh Mubarak to ensure that neither group could carry out the project without British approval.

When the agreement was submitted to Sheikh Mubarak, he stipulated that Britain offer Kuwait a pledge to protect the country if attacked by a foreign power. Britain approved the request.

In 1913, Turkey recognised Mubarak's agreements with Britain, including an accord signed in October that year giving Britain the oil exploration concession, with Kuwait maintaining its internal independence in return for British approval of building the Baghdad-Basra-Kuwait railway by Germany. The projects, were delayed due to the First World War.

In 1915, a treaty was concluded between Sheikh

Mubarak and Prince Abdul Aziz Bin Saud in which the latter recognised Kuwait's status, its independence and boundaries. It was on Nov 27 of the same year that Sheikh Mubarak died. Historians said he was a man of wisdom and experience in military and political fields.

It was during his realm, that Kuwait entered modern history, and its people enjoyed health, post and telegraph services.

When his son, Sheikh Jaber Bin Mubarak, assumed power, trade with Syria and Turkey increased, despite the siege imposed by the Allies on the ports of the region to halt the supply of foodstuffs to the Turks. After the death of Sheikh Jaber in 1917, Britain told the successor Sheikh Salem Bin Mubarak that it would not be able to protect Kuwait's safety against foreign threats if Kuwait kept siding with the Ottomans. They set up a control bureau to monitor all facets of Kuwait's commercial activity, which resulted in a cooling of British-Kuwaiti relations.

Sheikh Ahmed Al Jaber who succeeded Sheikh Salem, signed in 1922 the peace agreement which demarcated the boundaries between Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and succeeded in overcoming the country's economic and security problems. Kuwait entered a new stage with the discovery of oil and adoption of parliamentary democracy.

Oil was discovered in commercial quantities in 1938 after the Anglo-American company, Kuwait Oil Company Limited, had obtained the oil exploration concession during the reign of Sheikh Ahmed Al Jaber. Kuwait's oil production was delayed, however, by the Second World War. When the war ended, the company resumed production and the first shipment was exported in 1946. The number of oil wells dug in Kuwait up to 1918 amounted to 546.

With Sheikh Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah's assumption of power on Feb 25, 1950, Kuwait underwent great development. Kuwait began to reap the fruits of both the oil age and the prudent policies adopted.

This modern renaissance resulted from a long series of collective struggles which bonded the family spirit that characterises Kuwaiti society.

In June 1961, Sheikh Abdullah Al Salem exchanged memorandums with the British political resident in the Gulf to end the 1899 agreement, and Kuwait gained complete independence on June 19, 1961.

Since then the state has exerted all efforts to establish a modern society, and to place Kuwait in a prominent position following the 25-year march of independence.

The previous Amir, Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah led Kuwait into the era of superabundance. (KUNA).



Congratulations Kuwait, on your National Day.



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The Crown Prince and Prime Minister

to the Government and
the people of Kuwait
on the occasion of Kuwait's
28th National Day

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By Mark Cooper

IN A couple of months' time, Elvis Costello will dust down his guitars and set off for what must be his umpteenth tour of America.

Costello has done his fair share of US tours since he first played the clubs in the punky days of 1977 and is always finding new ways to keep cliché at bay. Already he is plotting various finales designed to curtail his American audiences' ingenious but habitual insistence on multiple encores.

The two current favourites are a medley of *The Red Flag* and *Faith of our Fathers* (both anthems mention dungeons) or the sudden production of a pair of giant shears followed by a smile, a bow and a severing of guitar strings.

Costello's gift for black comedy is exercised with almost manic vigour on *Spike the Beloved Entertainer* his twelfth studio album and the first in more than two-and-a-half years. The cover boasts a tacky tartan backdrop, a pink cushion frame and a leering, insouciant Elvis smiling out of the cushion with his face painted in two like some ghastly nightclub comic.

The cover is a suitable send-off for the dark vaudeville of Costello's latest songs whose biting sarcasm and arcane plots evoke the mixture of hilarity and grief that fuelled Cabaret's portrait of pre-war Berlin.

Costello distrusts such comparisons because they suggest the kind of nostalgic borrowings that reduce so much of contemporary culture to a series of glib shorthand references.

Portraits Yet while these portraits of loveless manipulation and political despair are undoubtedly Costello's most detached pieces of storytelling to date, he emerges from *Spike* with all the cracked dignity of King Lear's Fool.

Spike the Beloved Entertainer is full of belly laughs that stick in the gut with pride of place going to God's Comic and Tramp the Dirt Down.

In the first, a drunken priest with a lipstick-stained dog collar dies and goes to heaven, only to encounter god lying on a water bed "soaking up all our mediocrity, just horrified". This god is discovered drinking Coke, reading Jeffrey Archer and listening to Andrew Lloyd-Webber's *Requiem*, even though he prefers "the one about my son".

Letting the imagination run riot Elvis Costello: still musically adventurous

In his new album, *Spike the Beloved Entertainer*, his first after more than two-and-a-half years, Elvis Costello fans will be pleased to note that the singer's gift for black comedy is still strong and exercised with almost manic vigour.



Elvis Costello: the angry young man turned into an emerging craftsman of maturity

Neither the priest nor god are anything less than Beetle-juice-like nightmares and Costello's deranged Vaudevilian arrangement chuckles away like a kettle boiling dry. Tramp the Dirt Down is sadder still. Halfway between a curse and a lament, this plea for Thatcher's demise is saddened by its own brutality and sets Costello's exhausted vocals against a variety of traditional Irish musicians deployed like a chamber orchestra.

Costello's two-and-a-half years in the wings were spent touring abroad, collaborating with the

likes of Paul McCartney and scoring the film *The Crying Game*.

That scoring experience helps to account for the broad palette of instruments that is employed on *Spike* which was recorded in London, New Orleans, Dublin and Hollywood. New Orleans' Dirty Dozen Brass Band appear on four of the album's 15 songs and their chuckling, chattering choruses set the tone for the dark gossip that threads their songs.

"The Courier was the first time I've composed lengths of music without worrying about words," Costello explains. "I learnt a lot about juxtaposing different

kinds of sounds you wouldn't usually put together in a song.

The claustrophobic band setting of records like *Blood & Chocolate* is suited to personal stories but when you're dealing with characters as on *Spike*, you can let your imagination run riot like with film music.

Many of Costello's earlier records struggled between the angry young man of his first outpourings and the emerging craftsman of his maturity.

Spike is Costello as storyteller yet while songs like *Let Him Dangle* have the simple resonance of broadsides, they also

show a man who is at one with his emotions.

"In the past, when I tried to tell stories, not only did I not tell them very well but often the point wasn't made at the end of them," he says. "There was too much of me present."

Despite his new-found detachment, *Spike's* songs depend on Costello's own varied delivery. Only his wife Cait's *Baby Plays Around* has the kind of popular resonance to live without Costello's inimitable vocal styling. "That's a very pure song which is probably why it'll last longer than any of my songs. She'll be

rich long after I'm a pauper.

"The songs I write always have one line in them that puts a question mark over their heads. I wrote a song called *Indoor Fireworks* some time ago. It's a very simple country-based song with a fairly universal story. But it has a line in it which sounds like it belongs in a Cole Porter song — 'You were the spice of life/The gin in my Vermouth'. I played it to the country singer Ricky Skaggs, halfway thinking he might pick back his head and went 'What's this?' People in country songs don't mention Martinis. Ricky doesn't even drink."

"It's not a question of being too clever for your own good: perhaps I have too high expectations of what you can get away with in a limited genre. I can't write Cole Porter songs but then again, he can't write mine."

Love

Costello prefers scenarios to romance and *Spike* is full of characters and situations, observed with waspish invention. He cheerfully admits to playing god with his characters while insisting that god doesn't preach. Perhaps this explains why Costello is both attracted and repelled by showbiz, why he delights in insincerity and yet appears to long for a moment of resolution. "Spike obviously has an element of 'let's drive a nail through the heart of showbusiness' but I know I'm still part of it. The Beloved Entertainer specialises in false sentiments; he goes for the knee-jerk every time. I try to avoid that but we're all whores in the end, there's no great longlasting purity."

Costello's current set includes a cover of Bon Jovi's *Bad Medicine*. He cites it as a classic pop song and argues that he might easily have written it.

But he will never write a song of such commercial simplicity, just as he will never play the same set every night. "It's a misapprehension to think I'm frustrated because I don't sell millions of records. I think the other people must be frustrated, the ones who do the same things over and over again."

"I can't even imagine what it must be like to be in Pink Floyd and know that you have to do this number now because this is when the pig comes over and explodes. There's that kind of music and then there's this; it's just different. Like the 48 flavours of Dayville's Ice Cream. I don't mind that as long as I don't get limited to vanilla."

Simple Minds stay atop British charts

LONDON, (AP): Belfast Child by the Scottish group Simple Minds topped the British pop singles chart for the second week in a row, and Michael Jackson's *Leave Me Alone* came from off the charts to land in second spot.

Stop by Sam Brown shot up to number 3 from number 11. Rounding out the top five were *Something's Gotten Ahold Of My Heart* by Marc Almond, featuring Gene Pitney, and *My Prerogative* by Bobby Brown.

Top Ten UK

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd, the national music retail chain, with last week's placings in parentheses:

1. (1) Belfast Child — Simple Minds (Virgin).
2. (-) Leave Me Alone — Michael Jackson (Epic).
3. (11) Stop — Sam Brown (A and M).
4. (2) Something's Gotten Ahold Of My Heart — Marc Almond and Gene Pitney (Parlophone).
5. (7) My Prerogative — Bobby Brown (MCA).
6. (3) Love Changes Everything — Michael Ball (Really Useful).
7. (5) The Living Years — Mike and the Mechanics (WEA).
8. (6) Love Train — Holly Johnson (MCA).
9. (8) Fine Time — Yaz (Big Life).
10. (10) That's The Way Love Is — Ten City (Atlantic).

NEW YORK, (AP): Debbie Gibson took a giant leap to the number one spot on the pop singles record charts in the United States with her new single *Lost in Your Eyes*. The disc shot up from seventh place a week ago.

Paula Abdul's *Straight Up* slipped from the top to second position. On the *CBS* *Real* magazine chart, *Shedding Easton's The Lover In Me* hopped from sixth to third.

Last week's number two hit, Bon Jovi's *Runaway*, slipped to fourth, while *Wild Thing* by Tone Loc topped from third to eighth.

Only one newcomer made its way into the top 10 list this week — *Walking Away* by Informa-

tion Society, up from 11th to 10th.

Tanya Tucker's *Highway Robbery* took over the top of the *Cash Box* Magazine country-and-western singles chart. Dwight Yoakam's *I Sang Dixie* was second, and Kathy Mattea's *Like As We Knew It* was third.

Top Ten US

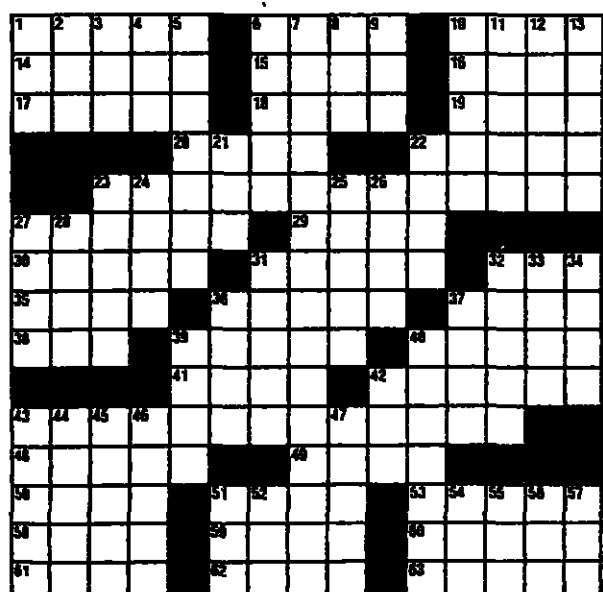
The top 10 pop singles, as rated by *Cash Box* Magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (7) Lost in Your Eyes — Debbie Gibson (Atlantic).
2. (1) Straight Up — Paula Abdul (Virgin).
3. (6) The Lover In Me — Sheena Easton (MCA).
4. (2) Born To Be My Baby — Bon Jovi (Mercury-Polygram).
5. (10) You Got It — New Kids On The Block (Columbia).
6. (8) She Wants To Dance With Me — Rick Astley (RCA).
7. (9) What I Am — Edie Brickell and The New Bohemians (Geffen).
8. (3) Wild Thing — Tone Loc (Delicious Vinyl).
9. (4) When I'm With You — Sheriff (Capitol).
10. (11) Walking Away — Information Society (Tommy Boy-Repulse).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by *Cash Box* Magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (6) Highway Robbery — Tanya Tucker (Capitol).
2. (2) I Sang Dixie — Dwight Yoakam (Warner Brothers-Repulse).
3. (4) Life As We Knew It — Kathy Mattea (Mercury).
4. (7) I Still Believe In You — The Desert Rose Band (MCA).
5. (9) You Ain't Woman Enough — Eddy Raven (RCA).
6. (1) Honey I Dare You — Southern Pacific (Warner Brothers).
7. (10) Just Called To Say Goodbye Again — Larry Boone (Mercury).
8. (12) Don't You Ever Get Tired (Of Hurting Me) — Ronnie Milsap (RCA).
9. (10) Don't Waste It On The Blues — Gene Watson (Warner Brothers).
10. (11) Big Wheels In The Moonlight — Dan Seals (Capitol).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Letter embellishment
 - 6 Potato, informally
 - 10 Honor
 - 14 Societies' org.
 - 15 Remedy
 - 16 Boorish one
 - 17 A de Mille
 - 18 House of Windsor
 - 19 Buckshot
 - 20 Certain powder
 - 22 Mail
 - 23 Plankton part
 - 29 One
 - 30 Patty Duke —
 - 31 Swiss Nobel physicist
 - 32 Buffer
 - 35 Earless or elephant
 - 36 Go to court again
 - 37 Enclosure
 - 38 Part of MHR
 - 39 A Count
 - 40 Writer Bret
 - 41 3 — 6 = 2
 - 42
 - 43 ?????
 - 48 Millie or Sam
 - 49 Jot
 - 50 Cuba, is one
 - 51 Race track
 - 53 School
 - 58 Social events
 - 59 Canine comment
 - 60 Snow house
 - 61 Straight
 - 62 Black
 - 63
- DOWN**
- 1 Wash, funding

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MAST AMAS OPA
OGLE ALAMO EXAM
CHINESE RED AFRO
SADDLE TRAILORS
EASE STER
CAIRN MIA ANDRE
OGRE MENTAL GAIL
LAID ORLON ARTE
ITS PAGANS BEEN
NEHRU EWE ASYLA
GELD DADO
PARAPETS RAREST
ABEL FRENCH BLUE
SEEM OATES ELMS
TEN EMIT DAPS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A 7
♥ A K 10 8 4 2
♦ 7 5 4
♣ 9 3

WEST
♠ 6
♥ 6 5
♦ J 10 9 3 2
♣ Q 10 8 5 2

EAST
♠ J 10 9 2
♥ J 9 7 3
♦ Q 8
♣ J 7 4

SOUTH
♠ K Q 8 5 4 3
♥ Q
♦ A K 6
♣ A K 6

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♥ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass 6 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

If you are going to bid like a

lunatic, you had better be able to

play like a genius—or else be a very

wealthy man. South's bidding on

this hand lived up to the first category—

six spades would have been an

iron-clad contract—but his play did

not come anywhere near the second.

Why South elected to play six no

trump rather than the ice-cold con-

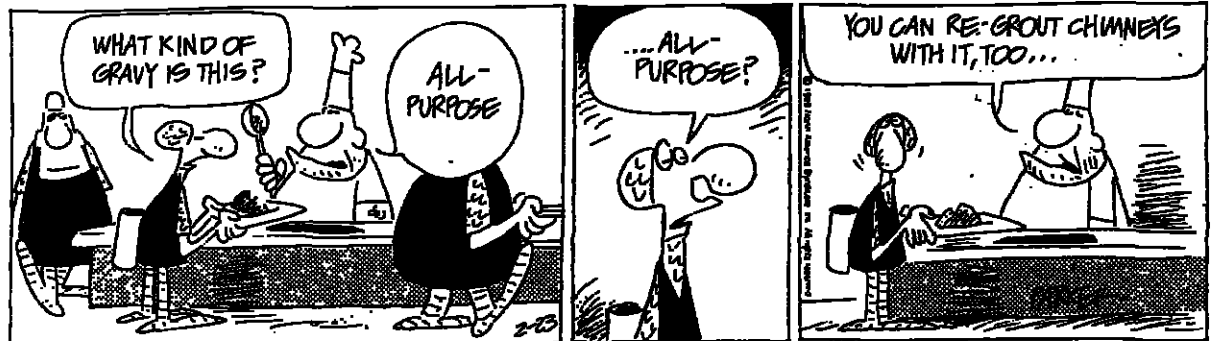
tract of six spades is beyond us. Even with a 4-1 trump split, the latter contract depends only on the hand with the long trumps having at least two hearts.

Declarer wasted no time in going down in his slam. He won the opening diamond lead in hand, cashed the queen of hearts and crossed to the ace of spades. Next, he tried to split out the hearts by cashing the ace-king. When the suit didn't run, he went after spades. Unfortunately, that suit also broke badly. Since declarer had to concede a spade to East, that defender was able to cash a heart trick for down one.

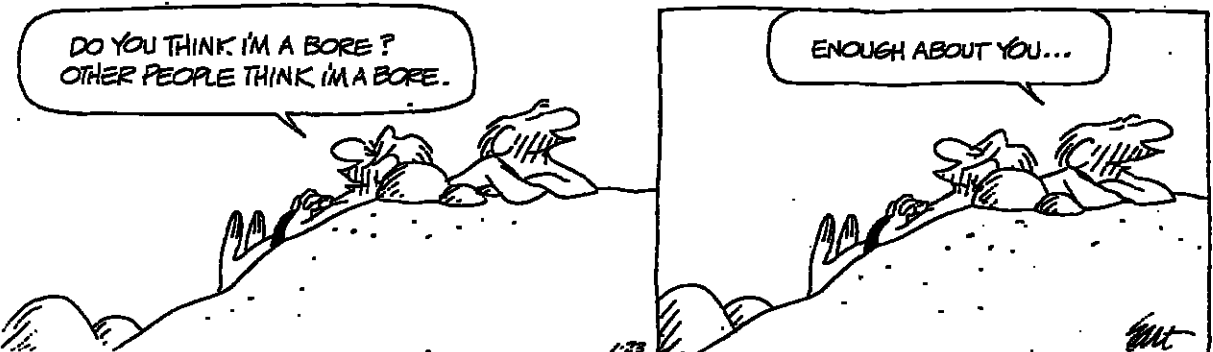
Had declarer stopped to count his tricks, he might have uncovered the safe route to 12 tricks. With four minor-suit tricks and three in hearts, he needed only five tricks from the spade suit. Therefore, after winning the opening lead declarer should have cashed the queen of hearts and then ducked a spade! The defenders can do declarer no harm.

Suppose East wins the spade and reverts to diamonds. Declarer wins, crosses to the ace of spades and takes the ace-king of hearts, discarding his minor-suit losers. He can get back to his hand with a club, and the rest of the tricks are his.

THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.



By Johnny Hart

YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

This is going to be an interesting but also tiring day for you. Try to have an early night. Avoid doing anything that might lead to an argument. Be moderate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should avoid all kinds of exaggeration. Make sure you do not lose your temper even if there is a slight provocation. Ensure that your diet contains sufficient vitamins. Be tolerant.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will tend to do more for others than you do for you. Never mind, it will make you feel better. There is no time to waste, but do not be in too great a hurry either. Be respectful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

If you enjoy browsing in a bookshop then for you it is not a waste of time. However, do remember you have other things to do. You should not be quite so fond of the sound of your own voice. Be reliable.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You should try not to worry about something that will probably never happen. Avoid doing anything that might be even slightly dishonest. Make sure you do not leave any doors unlocked or windows open. Be magnanimous.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You should try to avoid going to extremes. Do not spend money in the hope of having some good luck. You will be able to make full use of an unusual opportunity. Be careful.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

The Moon's better influence will help you to iron out some snags. You should keep your wits very much about you and use all the commonsense you can muster. 25 and 51 are your lucky numbers.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

The Moon's good influence will help you to deal with a rather formidable obstacle. What seems like a good idea will not be applicable just now. Do all you can to avoid getting in a friend's way. Be courteous.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will have something personal to be pleased about. You should avoid taking on more commitments than you can readily cope with. If you feel rather tired as you may well do, do not stay up too late. Be tactful.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You will feel a little tired and must beware of dropping off to sleep in the middle of something. You would do well to reduce the amount you drive to a minimum today. Avoid spending too much time chatting on the phone.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You will have a good opportunity to do something you enjoy doing. However you must not neglect what has to be done. Avoid spending as if there were no tomorrow. Be ready to make the most of things.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

The general prospects are good only you must not expect to have the world at your feet. You should try to have a good laugh at yourself. Make sure you do not neglect your personal hygiene. Be less insistent.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

KIO wants to sell Spanish banking interests

MADRID, Feb. 24, (Reuters): The Kuwait Investment Office wants to sell its share in Cartera Central, an investment company held jointly with Spanish businessmen with key stakes in two big Spanish banks, a spokesman for the Kuwaiti said yesterday.

A spokesman for the KIO's Spanish interests said KIO general manager Fouad Jaffar and the organisation's Spanish partner Javier de la Rosa told Cartera Central's chairman Miguel Boyer of their intentions at a meeting in Barcelona on Tuesday.

He said the Kuwaiti share in the holding company was worth about 45 billion pesetas (\$400 million).

The Kuwaitis were disturbed by power struggles between their Spanish partners in Cartera Central and existing manager at the two banks, Banco Espanol De Credito (Banesto) and Banco Central, he said.

Interests

The Spanish authorities have also informed KIO that they want the organisation to wind down its Spanish banking interests, he said.

"We told him (Bayer) we were not happy with the situation and that we wanted to solve the problem," the spokesman said. Bayer, a former finance minister, was recently appointed to head Cartera Central.

The KIO had offered its partners in Cartera, Spanish building entrepreneurs Alberto Corcuera and Alberto Alcocer, the opportunity to buy out the Kuwaiti stake, he said.

Both banks in which Cartera has shares, Banesto and Banesto, have separately approached the Kuwaitis saying they want to buy back stock in their respective banks, the spokesman said.

Cortina and Alcocer, popularly known as the Albertos, own a 51.2 per cent stake of Cartera through their construction company Construcciones Y Contratas. The Kuwaitis hold the balance.

An official spokesman for the Kuwaitis was not immediately available to comment.

Expectations

The announcement that the Kuwaitis want to pull out of Cartera coincides with mounting expectations in Spanish banking circles that a planned merger between Banco Central and Banesto will be abandoned, share analysts said.

The Bank of Spain is conducting a study of the merger's viability for the Finance Ministry, which will take the final decision on whether to allow the merger to go ahead.

\$40m IDB loans for five countries

RABAT, Feb. 24, (OPECNA): The governing council of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB), which met here today, has allocated \$40 million for six trade transactions in Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, Turkey and Senegal.

The meeting, which is being attended by finance and economy ministers and senior officials from the 44 IDB member states, will review the institution's activities over the last year and formulate its future policy.

According to IDB President Dr Ahmed Mohamed Ali, the governing council will be briefed on a draft agreement signed between the bank and the Arab Agricultural Development Organisation.

Opportunities

Also in the agenda is an item on training opportunities offered by IDB to the staff of national financing institutions in member states as part of its technical assistance programme for the current fiscal year.

Bonn credit for Indonesian project

JAKARTA, Feb. 24, (OPECNA): West Germany will extend a credit of more than \$40.75 million to Indonesia towards the construction of a major hydropower plant at Sentani, Irian Jaya.

The money will be disbursed in phases, beginning with the first year of the five-year development plan (1989-94).

The loan, which is on soft terms, has a repayment period of 40 years and grace period of 10 years.

The Sentani lake, which is to be the site of the project, is spread over an area of 9,630 hectares. First proposed in 1965, it could not be built because of a number of factors, including funds.

Six non-OPEC oil producers agree to cut exports

OPEC wants price stability, says Chalabi

AMMAN, Feb. 24: Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul-Rahim Al Chalabi said yesterday OPEC would not raise oil prices at its next full meeting in June whether or not the market firms.

He told an energy conference in Amman that even if the world price for oil had increased by June, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) would not raise its \$18 per barrel reference price set in November.

"No, that will not take place," he said. "But we might very well think of what is going to be OPEC's share of the market and what is going to be the ceiling."

Current prices remain below OPEC's \$18 a barrel target, though some non-OPEC producers pledged at a London meeting of technical experts on Tuesday to cut or freeze second-quarter exports to help OPEC bolster the market.

Decision

Chalabi said a decision on whether to leave the output ceiling at 18.5 million barrels per day (BPD) or raise it to 19 million would depend a lot on how non-OPEC producers behaved.

"OPEC will continue to reject to be the residual supplier... we have to keep a proper share of the market for OPEC," he said.

OPEC's 13 members are estimated to be producing 19 to 19.5 million BPD, higher than their agreed limit of 18.5 million

but below their fourth quarter output.

Chalabi said OPEC was ready for dialogue with oil consuming countries but co-ordination with non-OPEC producers should come first. Attempts at co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC producers were producing better results, but he criticised the attitude of some producer countries, notably Norway.

He said Norway had proposed to reduce its output by 7.5 per cent only after bringing new fields on stream that would increase its production to 1.5 million BPD from one million.

"They talk about stability, about being fair. They are not being fair," he said. "Norway and others want to have their cake and eat it."

"Is it fair that OPEC should bear all the responsibility while others continue to grab whatever positive fruits come out of OPEC meetings and the sacrifices of its members?" he asked.

Goal

Chalabi said market stability was an important goal for OPEC and should be equally important for non-OPEC producers.

"As far as prices are concerned, we hope we will be able to arrive at a situation where we will aim for a practical and stable increase. That's why we'd like to keep 1989 at the present pricing structure," he said.

"For the first time you are hearing OPEC talking this language," individual OPEC members might push for sharp price increases in future, but "those countries with major reserves... will continue to think of a stable market," he said.

Chalabi described short-term prospects for the oil market after the November OPEC meeting as a golden opportunity for the group, individual members, non-OPEC producers and consumers.

He said the monitoring mechanism it had set up was more effective than previous efforts to enforce OPEC agreements.

The November meeting restored Iraq to OPEC's production quota system, giving it parity with its Gulf war foe Iran.

Chalabi was addressing the Middle East Energy Forum, a one-day seminar sponsored by the World Energy Conference, the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries and Jordan's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

Meanwhile, six oil-producing nations which do not belong to OPEC have agreed to cut exports by five per cent to help defend prices, sources close to recent talks among the non-OPEC sellers said yesterday.

The sources said represen-

tatives from China, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman and North Yemen agreed at talks in London on Tuesday to trim exports in the second quarter of this year by five per cent in relation to their fourth quarter 1988 exports.

The London talks were also attended by Angola with observers from Colombia, the Soviet Union, Norway, the US state of Alaska and the Canadian province of Alberta.

Word from the talks on Tuesday was that there was support for measures to help OPEC support prices, but no details emerged on what might be done.

Producers

OPEC has repeatedly urged other producers to trim production to help it stabilise the market.

A cut of five per cent in exports by the non-OPEC six would take only around 190,000 barrels daily out of the market. Total world demand exceeds 60 million.

But OPEC may be content to have symbolic support from non-member producers. OPEC members have cut output well below capacity to prop prices and some have accused non-OPEC sellers of taking advantage of their sacrifices.

The cuts by the non-OPEC six aim at helping buoy prices and are not conditional on any action by OPEC, the sources said.

The sources said that Colombia and Angola had agreed at the meeting to freeze their crude export levels for the second quarter of this year.

Angola had also said it would consider making a cut of 20,000 barrels daily in exports for the second quarter. "But the representative said his government would first have to consider the state of the economy," one source said.

Angola's economy has been ravaged by years of civil war.

The Soviet observers who attended the meeting said they "shared the philosophy" involved in the agreed cuts and that Moscow could announce some measures next week, the source said.

The Soviet Union is the world's biggest oil producer.

There had been no suggestion as to what might happen at the end of the second quarter, they added.

"In a way, it would appear to be similar to what Norway has done," one said.

Norway, not an OPEC member, in 1987 began curbing planned production growth from its North Sea oil fields by 7.5 per cent and has renewed the measures every six months.

But Oslo has stressed that the curbs are unilateral and can be dropped at any time. Norway sent two observers to the London meeting this week.

Indonesia offers new incentives for oil and gas exploration

JAKARTA, Feb. 24, (OPECNA): The Indonesian government has announced a new deregulation package to encourage oil and natural gas exploration in the country.

Effective from yesterday, the incentives offered by the government are expected to lead to the discovery of new oil and gas deposits, according to Minister of Mines and Energy Ginandjar Kartasasmita on Wednesday.

The new package comprises 10 counts of new incentives, seven of them covering production-sharing contracts and the other three dealing with the price of gas, access to data and the methods whereby new data from surveys done outside a working area may be obtained.

Regulation

Concerning production-sharing, under the new regulation, if the oil exploration activities are carried out in a difficult frontier area, the production-sharing contracts will be 75 per cent for the government and 25 per cent for contractors. Previously, the ratio was 85 per cent and 15 per

cent respectively.

For conventional areas, the production-sharing ratio will be 80 per cent against 20 per cent. For old contracts whose terms are extended, they will be 85 per cent for the contractors.

Contractors who are producing oil in pre-tertiary areas, an incremental split system will be applied, not only for operations in frontier areas but also for those in conventional areas and for contracts that are renewed.

Production

Under the incremental split system, for production of up to 50,000 BPD, the government will get 80 per cent and the contractor 90 per cent. For production of between 50,000 BPD and 150,000 BPD, the ratio will be 85 per cent for the former and 15 per cent for the latter. In case of output of more than 150,000 BPD, it will be 90 per cent and 10 per cent respectively.

The incremental split for conventional areas is the same as that for renewed contracts.

But for the frontier areas, the

split is: up to 50,000 BPD: 75 per cent for the government and 25 per cent for the contractor, between 50,000 BPD and 150,000 BPD: 80 per cent for the government and 20 per cent for the contractor, and production exceeding 150,000 BPD: 85 per cent for the government and 15 per cent for the contractor.

A change is also introduced for 'tertiary recovery' or enhanced oil recovery projects. Previously, the production-sharing ratio was 95 per cent and 5 per cent respectively. Now with the new stipulation, it is 80 per cent and 20 per cent for renewed contracts and conventional area contracts. For contracts involving frontier areas, the ratio is 75 per cent and 25 per cent respectively.

New incentives have also been offered for production-sharing contracts involving deep sea working areas more than 600 ft deep.

The incremental split system will also apply to frontier and conventional areas as well as old contracts which have been renewed.

Soviet foreign trade 'stagnant'

MOSCOW, Feb. 24, (AP): Soviet foreign trade failed to improve in 1988 because of inferior goods, a fluctuating international economy and poor performance by joint ventures, a newspaper reported.

"Last year did not see any considerable rise in Soviet foreign trade, estimated at 132 billion roubles (\$213.8 billion)," said the Government Herald, an official newspaper.

It said a drop in prices for fuel and raw materials and growing protectionism in Western coun-

tries had made international markets unfavourable for Soviet goods over the past three years.

The article, focusing on the problem of exporting goods, said few Soviet-made items were immune to the fluctuations of international money markets.

"Meanwhile, Soviet industry continues producing planes, vehicles, tractors and agricultural machines whose specifications differ very little from previous models and which are inferior to Western types," the Government Herald said.

Shortage of foreign exchange hits Amman

Jordan seeks debt rescheduling

AMMAN, Feb. 24, (Reuters): Jordan, hit by a shortage of foreign exchange, is seeking to reschedule some of its \$6 billion foreign debt. Prime Minister Zeid Al Rifa'i said yesterday.

"We are in touch with some of the governments to reschedule some of the debt," Rifa'i said in a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) interview made available to Reuters. "It's a foreign exchange cash flow problem."

Rifa'i said Jordan's total civil and military foreign debt amounted to just under \$6 billion, adding that annual servicing payments were running at about \$900 million.

Loan

A World Bank team, with International Monetary Fund observers, is in Amman arranging a structural adjustment loan the size of which has not been disclosed.

Diplomats and Jordanian

sources said Jordan had approached Japan to co-finance the loan. Tokyo would consider a formal request once the World Bank team had completed its report, one diplomat said.

"We reached the stage a few months ago when we could not continue servicing all the instalments and interest due, so we decided to take radical measures aimed at restructuring the Jordanian economy and at greater self-reliance," Rifa'i said.

The government's measures also aimed "to repay what debts we could in the hope we would be able to reschedule some of them."

Speculation

In mid-October the Central Bank floated the dinar for lack of reserves to defend it. The currency has since lost about 30 per cent of its dollar value. The Central Bank resumed fixing the rate this month after closing moneychangers accused of speculation.

This is a temporary difficulty and we will overcome it because the economy in general is sound, healthy and solidly based," Rifa'i told the BBC yesterday.

On Feb 24, Jordan unexpectedly withdrew from the market a \$150 million seven-year syndicated loan lead-managed by the Bahrain-based Gulf International Bank (GIB).

At about the same time it asked bankers to roll over for three months a principal of about \$16 million due to a group of 20 international banks for a \$150 million syndicated loan raised in 1984, Bahrain-based bankers said.

Interest of \$4.63 million was paid on time.

The government announced an austerity budget for calendar 1989 and has banned the import of some luxury goods in a bid to cut its budget deficit and improve a balance of payments deficit.

The currency market had little response to the report, which was seen as a moderate correction to December's rise.

Instead, traders focused on what the Federal Reserve would do to fight inflation. Concern that it is not acting decisively enough is pressuring the dollar, which opened at its weakest levels in five weeks. The dollar began in New York at 1.8205 marks, nearly a penny and a half below Wednesday's close.

Durable goods orders have been fluctuating widely for several months, mostly because of the erratic pace with which aircraft, car and other transportation equipment bookings were placed.

Last year, durable goods orders rose 10.9 per cent to \$1.43 trillion, the largest annual

increase in four years, reflecting booming export sales and increased investment by businesses in new equipment.

The rapid order rate over the past year has added to many factory backlogs and pushed the operating rate of all heavy industries to its highest level in more than nine years.

Value

The value of unfilled orders for durable goods has been rising for nearly two years, including gains of 0.9 per cent in January and 1.8 per cent in December, the Commerce Department said.

While the bustling manufacturing sector has been a leading force in economic growth and has opened up hundreds of thousands of new jobs, it has also fuelled concern about an acceleration in inflation.

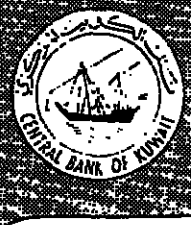
World Business Summary

Indonesia, Australia to share oil exploration in Timor Sea

JAKARTA, Feb. 24, (Reuters): Indonesia and Australia have mapped out an area in the disputed Timor Sea and agreed to share oil exploration and production rights there, Australian Resources Minister Peter Cook said today. In a brief interview with Reuters after meeting Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita, Cook said sea boundaries had been fixed and tax and legal status thrashed out for the area separating the Indonesian island of Timor from western Australia. However, the two sides still differ on the type of contracts they should offer to oil companies drilling in the area. "That's one we have to work on, but we should hammer out an accord by the end of the year," Cook said. Uncanny neighbours, Australia and Indonesia drew up their sea boundaries in the early 1970s but could not agree on the oil-rich Timor Sea and left a gap in the frontier. They have squabbled ever since over what is termed the Timor gap, with Indonesia claiming the line should be drawn mid-way between them, whereas Australia says most of the area falls into its own continental shelf. "We're juggling with all sorts of issues here. We feel this (exploration sharing treaty) is a creative way of breaking the deadlock. But it doesn't solve all of the responsibility of finding a long-term agreement on the maritime boundaries," Cook said. Under the treaty now being drawn up, the area will be divided into three zones. Indonesian law and tax structures will apply in the northern zone, Australia in the southern, with each side taking a cut of the other's tax income. In the Central Zone, the largest of the three, the tax split would be equal, with law dictated by a joint authority. Cook was confident of commercial interest once the treaty was formalised. "Reports vary from one billion to 12 billion barrels down there. Whether it's true or not, it at least shows there are plenty of people waiting to find out." He said exploration would begin towards the end of the century.

Kuwait banks' profits surge

LONDON, Feb. 24, (KUNA): Kuwait Central Bank Governor Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah said yesterday the performance of the Kuwaiti banks has been improving for the past two years. He told the Arabic-language newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat "that the profits realised by the Kuwaiti banks during the fiscal year 1986 revealed this improvement in their performance. He added that the profits realised in 1987 and 1988 were better than profits realised two years before. He said that the improvement of the Kuwaiti banks' performance reveals the improvement of the economic situation, in addition to the improvement of the local economy and other developments which helped in improving the banks' performance. As regards the Kuwaiti gross national product, the Kuwaiti economic official said the GNP has increased from \$4,818 million in the year 1986 to \$5,444 million in 1987 reflecting a growth rate of 13 per cent. Sheikh Salem said that oil sector GNP growth rate was estimated at 21 per cent and that non-oil sectors GNP growth rate was estimated at 78 per cent. Sheikh Salem said that the Kuwaiti Central Bank has issued, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, treasury bonds and notes which laid a role in the expansion and activation of the Kuwaiti dinar market." He added that such instruments had availed, to the local banks in providing a good opportunity to direct part of their financial surpluses to build up a portfolio from these issues. The Kuwaiti Central Bank governor declared that a programme the government has been applying for the settlement of difficult debts since the start of 1987 has been helping, directly and indirectly, in the improvement of banks' performance.



CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

ANNOUNCEMENT

**For Subscription in Issue No. (41) for Treasury Bills
Authorised by Decree Law No. (50) of 1987**

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION in compliance with the following Rules and Regulations:

- 1. AMOUNT OF ISSUE:**
The Amount of this Issue is KD 100 million distributed over THREE Denominations as follows:
KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000
- 2. ISSUE DATE :** Wednesday 1 / 3 / 1989
- 3. DUE DATE :** Wednesday 31 / 5 / 1989
- 4. OFFERING PERIOD:**
From : Sunday 26 / 2 / 1989
To : Tuesday 28 / 2 / 1989
- 5. ALLOTMENT:** Wednesday 1 / 3 / 1989
- 6. DELIVERY OF BILLS:**
After one week following the date of submitting the application.
- 7. The Provisions of this Issue shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Youm) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.**

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	223.0
ABBEY LIFE	313/0	60.76
ADT LTD	145.0	527.0
ALD LYONS	470.0	563/4
ARGYLL GP	152.0	407/0
ASDA GP	183/0	471/0
BAA	146/0	325/0
BTR	304.0	337.0
BAT INDS	346/0	638/0
BARCLAYS	536.0	303/0
BASS	444/0	207/0
BEAZER	965.0	285/0
BEECHAMS	207.0	553/0
BERISFORD	560/0	450/0
BICC PLC	161/0	147/0
BLICE ARRY	447/0	294.0
BLUE CIRC	91/0	354/6
BOC GP	523.5	284.0
BOOTS CO	482/4	376.0
BPB INDS	254/0	898.0
BR CONM	243.0	066.0
BR AIRWAY	225/0	511.0
BR GAS RG	188.0	435/0
BR LAND	516.0	617/0
B.P.	169/0	631.0
BR STEEL	78.5	521/0
BR TELCOM	267/6	69.00
BURMAN	542/0	520/0
BURTON	196.0	423.0
CABLESWIR	423.0	399/0
CADBURYS	344/0	299/0
CALOR GRP	381.0	430/0
CLINTON	850/0	116/0
CLINTON R	850/0	262.0
COOKSON	301/0	68.50
COURTAULD	356/0	476/0
DALGETY	152.0	322.0
DIXONS	152.0	352.0
ENG CHINA	520.0	165.5
ENTER OIL	536.0	088/0
FKI BARCK	177/4	088/0
FERRANTI	113.0	975/0
FISONS	277.0	281/0
GATEWAY	164/0	227/0
GEN ACCID	950/0	573.0
GEN ELEC	230/0	340.0
GLAXO	250.0	118/0
GRANADA	350/0	206/0
GLOBE	162.5	80.71
GLYNED	320.0	301.0
GUARD RYL	208/0	540/0
GKN	356/0	345/0
GUINNESS	402.0	440.0
HANSON	780/0	457/0
HARRISON	174/2	340/0
HARRIS	730.0	267/0
HAKER SID	647/0	243.0
HILLSDOWN	279.0	290/0
ICI	162/4	445/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1663.4	1660.9	1673.7	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	1147.2	1147.2	1154.8	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	1048.43	1048.43	1055.94	926.59
FT GVS SEC	88.13	88.13	88.31	87.03
FT GVS MD	163.6	163.6	162.4	161.9
FT GVS MD	163.6	163.6	162.4	161.9
FT MINES-F	675.99	75.99	681.50	565.31
FT OIL	1088.88	1088.88	1090.98	1072.54
FT MLD DLR	145.24	145.24	145.51	139.21
FT MLD STG	122.92	122.92	123.24	115.30
FT MLD LOC	78.39	129.80	130.16	123.40

London Stock Market Report

U.K. SHARES STEADY OFF HIGHS AFTER U.S. RATE HIKES

LONDON, FEB 24, REUTER - SHARES WERE STEADY AFTER FALLING FROM THE AFTERNOON HIGHS ON NEWS OF A HALF POINT HIKE IN THE U.S. DISCOUNT RATE AND PRIME RATE INCREASES BY U.S. BANKS, WHICH TRIGGERED A SHARP SELL OFF ON WALL STREET.

MODEST BUYING FOR THE NEW ACCOUNT AND A SMALL BOUNCE FOR THE LOWS IN THE NEW YORK MARKET AFTER ITS EARLY FALL HELPED KEEP PRICES HERE STEADY IN SLUGGISH AFTERNOON BUSINESS, DEALERS SAID. BY 1548 GMT THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS UP 7.3 POINTS TO 2,023.9. THE DAY'S HIGH OF 2,031.5 WAS REACHED AT 1411 GMT AMID BUYING FOR THE NEW ACCOUNT AFTER YESTERDAY'S FALLS HERE.

SOME DEALERS EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE WAY THE LONDON MARKET HELD ONTO PART OF THE EARLIER GAINS DURING THE AFTERNOON. THEY SUGGESTED THAT SOME BUYERS REMAINED UNDERWEIGHTED IN SOME AREAS AND WERE USING THE RECENT FALLS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUY.

DEALERS SAID HIGHER INTEREST RATES IN THE U.S. WAS POSITIVE NEWS IN SOME RESPECTS BECAUSE IT SHOWED THE U.S. WAS TAKING STEPS TO CURTAIL INFLATION. THE RATE HIKES WERE ALSO SEEN AS HELPFUL TO EXPORTERS WHICH GENERATE DOLLAR EARNINGS.

BUT THEY SAID IF THE U.S. RATE RISES PUT UPWARD PRESSURE ON U.K. RATES THIS COULD DETER INVESTMENT IN EQUITIES, RAISE CORPORATE BORROWING COSTS AND EAT INTO COMPANY PROFITS HERE.

Precious Metals

LONDON, FEB 24, REUTER - GOLD BULLION EASED SLIGHTLY ON NEWS OF A RISE IN THE U.S. DISCOUNT RATE AND HAD AN AFTERNOON FIX OF 388.40 DLR/AM OUNCE, DOWN FROM A MORNING SETTING OF 389.25 DLR/AM OUNCE AND PREVIOUS CLOSE OF 391.00/391.50 DLR/AM OUNCE.

PLATINUM ALSO EASED WITH EUROPEAN-BASED SELLING PUSHING PRICES LOWER IN THE ABSENCE OF JAPANESE DEMAND DUE TO EMPEROR NIKHIRO'S FUNERAL.

IT HAD AN AFTERNOON FIX OF 532.75 DLR/AM OUNCE, DOWN FROM A MORNING SETTING OF 537.00 AND PREVIOUS CLOSE OF 541.00/543.00. SILVER WAS TRADING AROUND 592/594 CENTS AN OUNCE, DOWN FROM ITS MIDDAY FIX OF 594.30 AND PREVIOUS CLOSE OF 603/605.

London Money Market

LONDON, FEB 24, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES SHOWED LITTLE NET CHANGE IN LATE BUSINESS AFTER A VOLATILE DAY'S TRADING DOMINATED BY THE PATH OF U.S. INTEREST RATES.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE RAISED THE U.S. DISCOUNT RATE TO SEVEN PCT FROM 6-1/2 PCT. THE MOVE HAD BEEN MOSTLY DISCOUNTED BY THE MARKET BUT STILL LIFTED RATES ABOVE THE DAY'S LOWS. THE HIKE WAS QUICKLY FOLLOWED BY A FURTHER BOUT OF HALF-POINT PRIME RATE RISES FROM MAJOR U.S. BANKS TO 11-1/2 PCT.

THE MARKET HAD OPENED SHARPLY HIGHER AMID CONCERN THAT YESTERDAY'S PRIME RATE RISES COULD PUT STERLING UNDER PRESSURE BUT RATES EASED BACK QUICKLY AFTER THE POUND OPENED STEADY.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR
DLR	1.7560/70	1.8255/60	6.2215/65
STG	1.7555/65	3.2090	10.9355/6450
DMK	1.8247/8327	3.2035/217	29.26/42
FFR	6.2255/2375	10.922/940	64.53/41.17
SFR	1.5575/5585	2.7339/7372	85.20/30
NFL	2.0635	3.6225	112.895
ECU	1.13895	6.49531	2.07688
YEN	1.32723	7.58262	2.41941
SDR	126.55/65	222.15/47	8.25736
SDR RATE	23/02/1989	OTHERS	24/02/1989

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	847/0	849/0
600 GROUP	123/0	123/0
A.AMER TS	414/0	415/0
A.S.W.HLD	427/0	427/0
AAB KENT	89/0	89/0
AAR HLD	402/0	403/0
AARSONSON	121/0	121/0
ADDISON	28/0	28/0
ADMET	167/0	166/0
ALEX WKW	130/0	130/0
ALEXON	368/0	368/0
ALD COLL	136/0	137/0
ALD IR B	280/0	280/0
ALD LBN	144/0	143/0
ALD PART	74/0	75/0
ALLIANCE	967/0	969/0
AMBER DAY	47/0	47/0
AMEC	409/0	409/0
AMER TST	130/0	130/0
AMERSHAM	529/0	531/0
AM HLTIC	334/0	335/0
ANGLIA TV	268/0	267/0
ANSBACHER	77/0	78/0
APPLEYARD	439/0	440/0
APV PLC	147/4	149/0
ARLEY LA	109/0	109/0
AUS REE	256/0	257/0
AUST REE	388/0	390/0
AUTO SECS	265/0	265/0
AVDEL PLC	99/4	99/0
AVESCO	132/0	133/0
AVIS EUR	374/0	375/0
AVON RUBB	634/0	632/0
B.WEMHILL	235/0	236/0
BAILL SHP	531/0	531/0
BAILL SHI	97/0	97/0
BAIRD (W)	240/0	240/0
BANK IRE	83/0	83/0
BANKER IT	154/0	155/0
BARDON GP	195/0	196/0
BARRY DEV	27/0	27/0
BEYNES C.	195/0	195/0
BBA GROUP	11/0	11/0
BEAR BRND	164/0	164/0
BEATTIE J	192/0	192/0
BEJAN GP	49/0	50/0
BELHAW	238/0	238/0
BELWAY	236/0	236/0
BENKROE	256/0	256/0
BENKROE HD	53/0	53/0
BERKELEY	114/0	114/0
BIRN GROUP	96/0	97/0
BLK OF SCO	10/6	10/4
BLK LE 2	10/6	10/4
BLM GROUP	423/0	426/0
BUNNETT F	125/0	126/0
BUNNETT F	125/0	126/0
BOASE MAS	244/4	247/0
BOODINGTON	178/0	178/0
BOODING	553/0	553/0
BOOD SHOP	445/0	448/0
BOOT HENR	445/0	448/0

NEW YORK

OPEN MID-DAY

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	33/0	33/0
ATLANTIC R	84/3	84/3
AAR CORP	25/6	25/6
ABBOTT LAB	51/4	51/3
ACHE CLVD	11/0	11/0
ADV MICRO	8/4	8/5
AEROFI LAB	4/7	4/7
AETNA LIFE	50/2	50/1
AMERSON	16/7	17/0
AIR PR-CHM	45/0	45/1
ALASKA AIR	24/0	23/7
ALBERTSON	40/3	40/0
ALBMA 8-16	0	83/0
ALCAN ALUM	33/3	33/3
ALCO STAND	26/1	26/2
AM CAP SEC	21/4	21/5
AM CYNAMID	50/2	50/3
AM FAMILY	15/2	15/2
AM HOM PRO	87/0	87/3
AM STNDARD	0	77/7
AM STORES	56/4	56/7
AM TEL-TEL	30/4	30/5
AMOCO CORP	76/5	76/2
AMP INC	46/3	46/4
AMPO PITT	0	14/4
AMR CORP	60/7	61/0
AMR GEN CO	33/4	33/4
AMERADA NE	33/5	33/7
ANTHEM ELE	9/6	9/7
APACHE CP	8/6	8/5
APPL 8-12	0	84/0
ARMSTRONG	37/1	37/3
ASHLAND OIL	34/5	34/3
ASIA PACIF	8/4	8/5
ATLS CORP	0	26/6
AVERY INT	22/2	22/2
AVNET INC	21/3	21/4
AVON PRODS	21/2	21/3
BCE INC	31/4	31/4
BELLSOUTH	41/7	41/7
BELO CP	25/5	25/7
BETH STEEL	26/1	26/1
BEVERLY	9/0	9/0
BNK BOSTON	24/6	24/5
BNK BOSTN-A	0	39/6
BNK-NYORK	42/2	42/3
BNK TR-NY	38/0	38/1
BKAMERICA	21/1	21/1
BKAM SPEC	6/4	6/4
BOEING CO	62/5	62/4
BOISE CASC	42/7	43/0
BND IN GLO	7/1	7/2
BORDEN	56/7	56/7
BOJATER	27/6	27/7
BR TELECOM	49/0	49/0
BRIGGS-STR	29/2	29/3
BRIST-MYER	45/5	45/5
BRUNSWICK	17/7	17/7
C 3 INC	10/3	10/3
C HUD G-EL	21/6	21/6
CABOT CORP	43/3	43/2
CAESARS WO	30/1	30/1
CAS FREIGHT	24/6	25/0
CAS NAT GS	14/6	14/6
CAST-COKE	26/4	26/4
CATERPI TR	59/7	59/6
CBI IND	28/1	27/7
CBS	167/5	167/5
CENTEL CP	64/2	64/2
CHAMP INTL	33/7	34/1
CHAMP SPA	22/0	22/0
CHARTER CO	5/2	5/1
CHASE MAN	32/4	32/4
CHEMED-CP	133/4	133/5
CHENIE-SUN	31/1	31/1
CHEVRON	48/7	49/1
CHRYSLER	26/0	26/2
CHUBB CORP	64/2	64/1
CHUR FR CH	10/3	10/2
CIGNA CORP	53/1	53/3
CIN MILACR	22/5	22/5
CIR CIT ST	39/2	39/6
CIRCLE K	15/0	15/0
CITICORP	26/0	26/0
CLARK EQUI	34/2	34/4
CLOROX	32/5	32/3
CMPLL RES	13	13
CMPLL SP	32/1	32/2
CND PACIFIC	19/1	19/1
COACHMAN	9/4	9/4
COASTAL	34/2	34/2
COCA-COLA	47/2	47/2
COLECO	13	13
COLMAN CO	69/4	69/6
COLG-PALM	45/4	45/6
COLUM GAS	35/0	35/0
COLUMBUS-C	0	113/0
COM EDISON	33/0	33/1
CONAGRA	40/6	40/6
CON EDISON	30/0	30/2
CONTINENTA	33/1	33/1
CONTL ILLN	47/1	47/1
CONTEL CP	21/1	21/2
COOPER T-R	25/1	25/1
COOPER CO	3/4	3/4
CORNING GL	34/2	34/2
CRAY RES	58/4	58/3
CULLINET	5/1	5/1
DANA CORP	39/5	39/5
DANIEL IND	11/4	11/3
DATA GEN	19/0	19/2
DAYTON HUD	44/3	44/4
DEC	114/4	114/5
DEERE-CO	48/4	48/4
DELTA AIR	56/4	56/6
DIAMOND SH	17/1	17/1
DIEBOLD	43/6	42/8
DISNEY W	73/0	74/0
DOVER CORP	29/0	29/1
DOW CHEM	95/1	95/1
DRESSER IN	32/5	32/5
DREYFUS	33/6	33/7
DUKE POWER	43/4	43/5
DUN BRAD	53/7	53/6
DUPONT	97/3	97/0
DUCQUESNE	18/3	18/3
DYNAMICS	23/2	23/3
E SYSTEMS	30/0	30/0
EAGLE PICH	15/4	15/5
EASTERN G	24/6	24/7
EMERSON EL	30/1	30/1
EMERSON RA	4/2	4/2
ETHTL CP	22/7	23/1
FAMON	44/2	44/2
FAX DOL ST	11/7	11/7
FED NAT CR	59/3	59/3
FIELDCREST	22/4	22/2
FLEETWOOD	27/3	27/4
FLEMING CO	31/4	31/6
FMC CORP	37/6	37/6
FORD MOTOR	53/0	53/1
FOSTER WHL	16/3	16/4
FRCHLD IND	12/2	12/3
FREE MC OG	4/4	4/4
FST BANK	20/4	20/3
FST CHICAG	35/7	36/1
FST INTERS	46/7	46/6
FST MISSIP	18/3	18/3
GAF CORP	51/1	51/0
GANNETT CO	37/1	37/3
GALVESTON	0	1/4
GATX CORP	57/4	57/4
GCA CP	0	5/2
GEN DATA	5/1	5/1

GEN DYNICS	51/0	50/5	MOTOROLA	43/0	42/7	SEALED AIR	48/1	48/2
GEN ELECT	46/1	46/1	MRSR-MCLEN	58/2	58/2	SEARS ROE	41/1	41/1
GEN HOST	8/4	8/4	MURPHY OIL	35/4	35/4	SERV CORP	17/6	17/6
GEN HOUSUR	8/3	8/4	NAT INTERG	17/3	17/3	SE STH PAC	22/5	22/5
GEN INSTR	33/6	33/2	NBI CORP	1/7	1/6	SHRST INT	21/7	21/6
GEN HILLS	54/4	54/5	NCR CORP	61/0	61/1	SHELL TRAM	39/1	39/2
GEN MOTORS	86/6	86/7	NEW ENG EL	23/3	23/4	SHELL PLOU	61/2	61/1
GEN SIGNAL	50/1	50/1	NEW PLA RE	15/7	15/6	SMITH INT	9/1	9/1
GENCORP	17/2	17/4	KEUVEL CO	30/1	30/1	SMITHK BCL	49/7	50/4
GENETECH	20/1	20/3	KEUWONT MI	44/7	43/0	SNAPO ON TEL	36/5	36/7
GENUTINE PA	36/2	36/3	KEUWHT GLD	36/2	36/0	SOURCE CAP	36/7	36/6
GEO PWT-80	0	76/6	NI MOHS-10	0	58/0	SOUTHERN C	23/3	23/4
GEORG-PAC	41/1	41/2	NI MONT-72	0	73/4	SPAIN FUND	0	11/3
GIBR FI-CL	15	15	NIOLET IN	10/2	10/3	SPERRY	9/7	9/7
GLOBAL WAR	*16	*15	NICO INC	31/3	31/3	SQUARE D	53/0	53/1
GOLDEN MUG	18/4	18/5	NI INDS	21/6	22/0	QUIBBB		
GOODRICH	52/0	52/1	NOBLE AFF	11/0	11/0	STONE CONT	33/4	33/4
GOODYEAR	48/0	47/7	NORD RESOU	12/2	12/2	SUN CO	35/3	35/5
GRACE WR	27/3	27/1	NORTHROP	17/6	27/6	SUNSTRAND	36/3	36/4
GRAINGER	55/6	55/7	NORTON	47/4	47/4	SUNSH MIN	3/5	3/4
GREYHOUND	29/4	29/3	NOVO INC	43/6	44/0	SUPER VAL	23/7	24/0
GRUNMAN	20/0	20/0	NUCOR CORP	49/3	49/6	SOUTHWEST	23/6	23/6
GULF RES-C	11/6	11/7	OAK INDS	1/0	1/0	SV GAS	17/7	17/7
GULF-WESTN	41/6	41/6	OCC PETRPC	27/3	27/4	SUN BELL	44/0	44/2
HALLIBURTN	29/0	29/1	OCEAN DRIL	16/3	16/3	TDK	0	65/6
HALLWOOD	0	15/6	ODGEN CORP	27/3	27/2	TECO ENRG	22/5	22/5
HANNA MIN	23/5	23/6	OH ED CO	21/1	21/0	TEKTRONIX	21/5	21/5
HARRIS CP	28/0	28/1	OHIO MATT	49/5	49/6	TELETYPE	345/6	346/0
HARTMARX	25/6	25/6	OLIN CORP	8/0	8/1	TELEPHONIC	24/0	24/0
HEINZ NJ	47/4	47/3	OMNICARE	14/6	14/6	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
HEL CURTIS	0	46/2	ORION PICT	18/3	18/4	TERADINE	13/0	12/7
HELM-PAYNE	22/1	22/1	PAINE WEB	4/0	4/0	TESORO PET	12/6	12/5
HERSCHEL	47/2	47/3	PAN AM	22/5	22/6	TEX AMER B	.08	.07
HEUL-PACK	56/0	55/7	PANHANDLE	5/2	5/2	TEX EAS TR	52/1	52/3
HEXCEL CP	34/2	34/4	PARKER DRI	29/0	29/1	TEXACO	51/0	51/0
HILLENBRND	27/1	27/2	PARKER HAN	4/5	4/4	TEXAS IND	34/0	34/3
HILLENBRND	35/3	35/5	PATRICK PET	0	0	TEXAS INST	40/5	40/5
HILTN HTLS	50/6	50/6	PULLMAN CO	0	0	TEXTRON	27/4	27/5
HITACHI	129/2	129/4	PC INDS-96	12/2	12/2	THEMED HO	0	22/3
HMTKSE MIN	14/4	14/5	PEGASUS	0	24/2	TIDEWATER	8/5	8/5
HNDR-HARRN	18/2	18/3	PENN CENTR	119/0	118/7	TIME INCOR	106/4	106/3
HOLIDAY C	29/2	28/5	PENNAULT	81/3	81/3	TINKEN	35/6	35/4
HOMED DEPOT	33/6	34/0	PENNZOIL	28/2	20/3	TORCHMARK	32/0	32/0
HOMEFED CP	30/7	30/7	PEOPLES EN	40/2	40/4	TOSCO	3/6	3/5
HONDA MOTR	158/7	158/7	PEPSICO	55/4	55/4	TOYS R US	38/1	38/2
HONEYWELL	65/3	65/4	PFIZER	50/7	50/6	TRANSAER	33/4	33/5
HOUGHTN MI	49/4	49/6	PHILIPS DOD	109/2	109/3	TRANSCO EN	39/4	39/5
HOUSTON IN	27/5	27/6	PHILIP MOR	21/4	21/4	TRANSCO EX	5/7	5/7
HUGHES SUP	18/0	18/0	PHILIPS PE	15/2	15/3	TRAVELLERS	38/1	37/7
HUMANA INC	26/0	25/6	PINACKE W	43/1	43/1	TRINITY IN	35/4	35/4
IBM	123/3	123/4	PITN-BOWES	17/6	17/7	TRN CORP	28/1	28/2
IGN PHARMA	6/5	6/5	PITTSOFT	43/0	43/2	TYCO LABS	36/3	36/3
ILLI PUR CO	17/4	17/4	POLAROID	22/5	22/5	UAL CORP	127/1	128/0
ILLIN 4-08	9/4	9/4	PORTN AND GE	43/0	43/0	UTO BRAND	15/2	15/1
INDIA GROW	37/0	36/6	PR INDS	19/5	19/0	UTO TECH	63/0	62/1
INGERSOLL-R	32/7	33/0	PRIME CORP	30/1	30/1	UTTEVEY	51/2	51/2
JEFF PILLOT	0	79/6	PRIME INNS	23/5	23/3	UTTEVEY	21/2	21/2
JEK PW B-5	34/4	87/3	PRIMERICA	90/3	90/1	UNION CARB	24/3	24/3
JOHNSN CORP	87/4	87/3	PROCT-GAM	18/3	18/3	US SHOE	32/0	32/0
JOHNSN-JNS	38/0	38/0	PUGET SP-L	10/4	10/5	USX CORP	60/5	60/5
K MART CP	29/4	29/4	PULETE HOME	55/0	52/5	US WEST	39/3	39/3
KAN CI P-L	62/0	62/0	QUAKER COR	58/7	18/5	US AIR CP	11/0	11/0
KELLOGG	41/3	41/5	QUANTUM CH	57/4	57/4	VALERO EN	5/4	5/4
KERR MCGEE	19/7	19/7	RALS PURIN	82/1	82/1	VALLEY IND	28/2	28/2
KEYSTONE	61/4	61/4	RAMADA-HOT	10/6	10/6	VARCO PETL	5/4	5/4
KIMB-CLARK	20/4	20/5	RANGER OIL	5/5	5/3	VARIAN ASS	57/2	57/2
KLM R-D AI	46/6	47/0	RANCHER	34/4	34/6	VN PNT PETE	6/7	7/1
KK RID NWS	9/5	9/5	RATNARK	0	3/2	WAINOC INC	32/2	32/2
KROGER CP	16/3	16/3	RATHEON	67/2	67/3	WAL MANT	35/1	34/1
LEA ROMAL	12/0	12/0	REYNOLD ME	57/4	57/4	WALGREEN	41/5	41/5
LEHMAN	21/2	21/2	RJR BARISC	85/6	83/5	WARNER COM	79/4	79/4
LENNAR	49/7	49/6	ROCKES G-E	18/0	18/0	WASTE MAN	42/4	42/4
LITTON INC	73/6	73/6	ROCKAWAY C	15/6	15/6	WASH GAS L	24/4	24/4
LOCKNEED	48/0	48/0	ROCKWELL	32/1	32/1	WENDY INTL	6/4	6/4
LOCTITE CP	37/5	37/4	ROHN INDS	12/0	12/0	WEST CO	16/5	16/5
LOEWS CORP	81/1	81/0	ROLLINS EN	17/0	17/0	WESTINGHSE	56/0	56/0
LOH-NETTLE	0	30/5	ROLLINS IN	40/1	40/1	WICKES CO	72/1	72/1
LONG-STAR	30/5	30/5	ROBAM CORP	6/2	6/3	WILLIAMS C	35/0	35/0
LOWES	24/1	24/2	ROYAL DUTCH	59/1	59/1	WILLIAMS E	9/0	9/0
LTD INC	30/4	30/3	RSS BERRIE	19/5	19/6	WINNBERG	11/2	11/2
LTV CORP	2/2	2/2	RYDER SYST	26/3	26/5	WOOLWORTH	52/2	52/2
LTV 1-25	2/7	2/7	RYLAND GRP	22/4	22/6	WORLDCORP	37/7	37/7
LTV 3-068	4/0	3/7	S DIEG G-E	37/3	37/6	WYLE LABS	9/3	9/3
LTV 5-25	11/0	11/2	SALOMON	26/3	26/3	XEROX CORP	63/2	63/2
LUBRIZOL	36/7	36/7	SARA LEE	45/7	46/0	ZAPATA	2/5	2/5
LUBSYS CFS	26/3	26/3	SC ATLANTA	14/0	14/1	ZAYRE CORP	25/0	25/0
MALAYSIA F	8/0	8/0	SCOTT PPR	39/4	39/5	ZENITH EL	21/1	21/1
MGMT ASS	.09	.09	SE BANKS C	12/7	12/7	ZERO	18/7	18/7
MARIETTA	43/0	43/0	SEBANC CO	23/4	23/4			
MA CON INC	8/1	8/2	SEBANC CO	67/0	67/2			

International Bond Highlights

WASHINGTON: US Treasury bond prices spiked higher and then fell on a rise in the US discount rate to seven per cent 6.5. Traders said the market initially read the increase as positive, but quickly assessed the rate hike as not enough of a rise to stop inflation.

Frankfurt: Finance for Danish Industry AS is issuing a 100 mln mark Eurobond due March 29, 1994 with a 6-3/4 per cent coupon and priced at 101-7/8, lead manager Deutsche Koorunbank said. (XLFJ 1135)

Zurich: The Central Mortgage Office of Swiss Cantonal Banks plans to issue a 150 mln Swiss franc bond, lead manager Zurich Cantonal Bank said. (XLFZ 1249)

Lugano: Gotthard Bank said it is issuing for its own account a 50 mln Swiss franc, 3-1/2 subordinated bond with equity warrants. (XLFGB 1309)

Hong Kong: Steel market Citicase USA Inc. a US corporation owned by China, signed a 35 mln dir syndicated loan in New York on Thursday, arranger KA Wah International Merchant Finance Ltd said. (XLFH 1055)

London: Lloyds Bank Plc, Britain's second largest bank creditor to the Third World, substantially reduced its exposure to Brazil and Mexico in 1988, despite new loans to both nations, Lloyds chief executive Brian Pitman said. (XKSR 1532)

Mexico City: Latin America's big four debtor countries are pressing to renegotiate their combined 310 billion dir debt, but the signs are that their hopes for debt reduction, interest relief and new loans are not prospering. (Economic Spotlight ECTH-0).

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 12 11 3/4	12 13 1/2 3/4	13 5 1/2 1/16
FFR 5 95 1/2 0	5 95 1/2 0	6 70 1/2 0
PAR 8 15 1/2 9	9 5 1/2 5 1/16	9 7 1/2 9 1/16
ZUR 4 7 1/2 5 1/8	5 1/2 5 3/4	5 3/4 6
RIX 8 50	8 00 1/8	8 5 1/2 3/8
ROM 11 3/4 12 1/4	12 1/4 12 3/4	12 1/4 12 3/4
AMS 6 68 1/2	6 90 0/0	7 08 1/8
TOK FOUR 4 2 3/2	4 11 3/2 13 3/2	4 18 3/2 20 3/2
ECU 8 25 8 50	8 62 8 75	8 97 00

Interest Rates

Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	7-15/16	8-5/16
3 months	8	8-1/16
6 months	8-1/16	8-1/2
1 year	8-1/16	8-9/16

BOMBAY

	PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	91.50	91	91.50	NICO	600	595	600
				GNFC	43	43	44	MUKAMD	84	83	85.50
ACC	315	316	314	GRASIN	98	98	99	NOCIL	785	785	792.50
ASIA PAINT	213.75	212.50	213.75	GSFC	131.25	135	132.50	ORRAY	24.50	24.50	27
BAJAJ AUTO	380	380	385.25	HIND LEVER	74	74	75.50	PEICO	22	21	22
BAR. RAYON	317.50	317.50	320	HINDALCO	192.50	197	196	PFIZER	76.50	75.50	76.50
BOM. DYING	120	122	121	HINDCOCCA	107.50	107.50	108.75	PRE. AUTO	44.50	44.50	45
BR. BOND	116	115	118	HINDMOTOR	31	31.50	31	RAYMOND	73	72.50	74
BSE INDEX	660.66	661.87	IND ORG	35.50	36	36	REL.ANCE	138.50	140	141	
CENTURYSP	1540	1560	1565	INDRAYON	85.50	85.50	87	SIEMENS	83	82	84
COLGATE	326.25	327.50	331.25	INDROL	290	292.50	297.50	SPIC	45.50	46	45.50
DEEPAKFERT	36	35.50	36	ITC	51	50	52	STONWILLS	235	240	245
EL. HOTEL	60	57	59	JCSYNTH	77	77.50	79	TATA PWR	357.50	355	365
ESKAYEF	135	135	137.50	L AND T	101	101	103	TATACHEM	113.50	114.50	114
ESSAR	23	22.75	23.50	MAHINDRA	92.50	92.50	94	TELCO	762.50	765	766.25
GAR. POLY.	76.25	75	76.25	MASTERSIR	16.15	16.25	16.75	TISCO	1201	1208	1226
GE. SHIP	37.50	37.75	38	MATHER PL	--	51	52	VOLTA	590	590	590

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AGF	214.00
ALLIANZ VR	1747.00
BADEMEIER	189.90
BASF	282.00
BAYER	295.00
BAYER HYD	357.00
BAYER VER	371.00
BBC	464.00
BIF	465.00
BIM	503.00
COMMERZB	236.00
CONTI GUM	238.90
DAIMER BEN	653.50
DEUTSC BK	507.50
DLV	468.00
DRESDNER B	404.00
DT BARCOX	168.50
FAZ INDEX	547.95
FERROVIAL	300.00
GOLDSTEIN	382.00
HARPER	474.00
HOECHST AG	292.50
HOESCH	206.50
HORTEN	225.00
HUSSEL NLD	457.00
KALI SALZ	195.00
KARSTADT	421.00
KAUHOFF	415.00
KLOCKE N	166.20
KLOCKE V	152.00
LINDE	770.00
LUFTHANSA	162.00
MAN	245.00
MANNESMAN	209.00
MERCEDES	518.50
METALLGES	380.00
NIXDORF PF	312.00
NORDK. HYD	44.20
PHILIP KON	656.00
PORESCHE	710.00
PREUSSAG	262.00
RHA	275.00
RHEINMETAL	423.00
RME	239.00
RWE	217.50
SALAMANDER	331.00
SCHERING	619.00
SEL	289.00
SIEMENS	511.50
THYSEN	208.30
VARTA	340.00
VEBA	280.00
VEW	170.00
VOLKSWAGEN	316.50

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C H TUNNEL	15.30
CHUNG K	10.40
CHINA GAS	19.00
CHINA L-P	14.60
CHINA MTR	27.10
COSMO PROP	3.80
EVERGID IND	3.70
FAR EAST C	1.02
GEN ORIENT	44.00
H S DEVELOP	9.55
H S INDEX	159.84
HANG LUNG	6.30
HANG SENG	32.75
HAW PAR BR	11.60
HK ELEC CO	7.60
HK KOWLOON	11.00
HK LAND CO	11.30
HK SHAN BK	7.40
HK SHAN HT	6.25
HK TELE CO	5.35
HUTCH WHAM	10.90
IND EO PAC	11.50
JARDINE M	19.30
KOWLOON W	9.50
NEW WORLD	15.10
PAUL Y CON	1.57
REALTY DEV	7.70
S H K CO	3.00
S H K PROP	14.90
SINE DARY	3.00
STELUX MFG	3.40
SWIRE PAC	21.50
T V B CO	1.35
TAI CHEUNG	5.10
UNION BANK	1.86
WALOCK HAD	0
WALOCK HAT	0
WORLD INTL	5.10

World trade package agreement possible in April, says GATT chief

GENEVA, Feb. 24 (Reuters): GATT members agreed to a package of measures to ease a loosening of global commerce badly enough that they will be prepared to compromise in order to agree on a package of reforms here in April, the world trade body said yesterday.

A four-year round of trade negotiations launched in 1986 in Uruguay have been in danger of collapse since ministers meeting in Montreal in December, were unable to agree on how to approach key areas including agriculture and textiles.

But now, after a series of informal meetings, Arthur Dunkel, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, says the negotiators seem ready to budge.

System

"While it is too early to expect a breakthrough on what are, after all, some of the most fundamental and difficult questions facing the international trading system, it is clear to me that the necessary political will exists to ensure that we get agreement in April," Dunkel said in remarks issued yesterday.

In early April the 105 Uruguay round nations are due to reconvene in Geneva to try to hammer out agreement on contentious areas, which include textiles and clothing and intellectual

Lebanon on the brink of a banking crisis

NICOSIA, Cyprus: Lebanon is on the brink of a banking crisis, bankers and economists say, that could shake a sector of the country that has survived 14 years of civil strife in surprisingly good shape.

The potential crisis was triggered by a depositor run on Al Mashreq, one of the country's biggest banks. Unable to meet the withdrawal demands, the bank collapsed on New Year's Eve.

"It looks as though, after 14 years of war, the rift is finally reaching the last remaining good apples in the barrel," says Elias Saba, a former finance minister.

What worries Dr Saba and many other sources is not so much the collapse of Mashreq, but its handling by the Central Bank and its governor, Dr Edmond Naim.

The Central Bank is the major shareholder in Mashreq. The fear is that the failure of Lebanon's monetary authority to intervene in support even of bank operations in which it has a direct stake, could expose other Lebanese banks abroad to trouble, with the crisis spreading back into the banking system at home.

One result could be the flight abroad of some of the \$3 billion in foreign currencies held by the country's 70 or so commercial banks.

"No bank would be safe if that (capital flight) were massive," Saba says.

Both of Lebanon's rival prime ministers are reported to have urged that the Central Bank should meet Mashreq's inter-

property in addition to farm trade.

A package of measures from that meeting would form the basis for the remaining 1-1/2 to two years of negotiations.

Importance

"Negotiators recognise the urgency and importance of the tasks facing them and seem prepared to begin to move their positions," Dunkel said, adding that this movement would be vital.

"The remaining weeks before April will be difficult, but I am optimistic about the outcome."

He gave no hint of what shape a deal might take on the bitterly contested issue of trade-distorting farm subsidies. The United States and other big farm producers want to eliminate them, but the European Economic Community wants to keep them in part.

Discord on what to do with farm subsidies in the short term, with the United States refusing to agree to a reduction until the EEC agreed to elimination but with the EEC eager for a reduction to cut its costs.

But the United States gave some ground on that issue this month when it agreed to discuss the short-term even though it still said it must be tied to the long run.

national obligations to safeguard Lebanon's banking reputation and maintain confidence in its system. Far from doing so, Naim teleaxed the central banks of the countries concerned and warned them that Mashreq was in distress, thus triggering a wave of panic withdrawals.

Naim, who was appointed with no previous banking experience and has been accused of insensitivity to the banking arena, argues that Mashreq's operations abroad are the responsibility of the countries concerned. "Our foreign currency reserves have a limit — about \$950 million — and I can't fritter them away on Mashreq's debts abroad," the former lawyer and university professor says. "It would be a disaster for the domestic banking sector and for society in general if they were to be weakened."

Others disagree. "It would have cost less than \$40 million, fully recoverable over 18 months, to save the whole reputation of the Lebanese banking system," said a source at the Banking Control Commission (BCC), the banking sector's watchdog body.

All sources agree that the origins of the crisis are as political as they are financial. Many of Naim's critics accuse him of exploiting the situation out of ambition to become president of the republic. That post has remained vacant since Amin Gemayel stepped down last September.

The Christian Science Monitor.

AMMAN

As of 22.2.89	OPNG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.89	1.89
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.16	2.18
ARAB BANK	157.0	160.1
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.33	4.35
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41
ARAB INSURANCE	1.11	1.11
ARAB INT. INV. TRAD.	0.57	0.57
ARAB INT. UNION TELS	1.25	1.23
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.76	0.77
ARAB JOR INVST/BK	2.35	2.35
ARAB PAPER COM/TRD	6.45	6.43
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	3.21	3.29
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75
ARAB POTASH CO.	1.65	1.65
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	15.60	15.65
BANK OF JORDAN	1.00	0.95
BELGIUM INSURANCE	31.00	31.00
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	1.05	1.25
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	0.56	0.57
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	2.35	2.42
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	0.85	0.85
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.75	0.71
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	4.55	4.55
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INSURANCE	1.30	1.35
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.70	1.78
GENERAL MINING.	0.75	0.75
HIMEX MINERALS	1.44	1.44
HOLY LAND INS.	0.76	0.76
IND. MATCH/INCO	1.70	1.65
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP BK	1.75	1.60
INDUSTRIAL/COM/AGRI	0.75	0.75
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.13	0.13
INTERN. COM/INV	0.91	0.91
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.64	0.64
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	1.71	1.71
INTERMED/PETRI/CH	0.79	0.80
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	1.26	1.29
JORSALEM INS.	20.00	19.50
JOR TOBACCO/CIGARET	2.10	2.07
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	25.05	25.05
JOR EAGLE INS.	1.70	1.70
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.20	1.22
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.10	1.10
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	2.30	2.30
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.85	2.80
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.20	1.20
JOR INS AND FIN.	0.79	0.83
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.22	0.22
JOR LIM BRICK	0.50	0.50
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	2.71	2.71
JOR NATIONAL BANK	3.95	3.95
JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	3.81	3.82
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	1.88	1.88
JOR PIPES MANUFACT.	1.73	1.79
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	4.25	4.40
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	1.11	1.16
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.12	1.11
JOR SECURIT CORP.	3.02	3.05
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	1.63	1.65
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	5.60	5.60
JOR WORSTED MLL	1.00	0.97
JOR. KUWAIT AGR.	8.72	8.75
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	5.45	5.45
JOR. FRENCH INS.	2.70	2.73
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	0.38	0.39
JORDAN GULF REAL	1.00	1.00
JORDAN DAIRY	1.27	1.28
JORDAN GULF BANK	0.94	0.95
JORDAN GULF INS.	2.01	2.05
JORDAN INSURANCE	1.48	1.47
JORDAN ISLAMIC BKK	2.05	2.05
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	0.77	0.75
JORDAN TANNING	0.79	0.79
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.69	0.73
MACH/EQUI/RENT/MAIN	1.17	1.11
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.80	0.80
MID EAST EXCHANGE	1.90	2.00
MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.76	0.75
MIDDLE EAST INS.	2.10	2.11
MINERALS RESEARCH	1.62	1.61
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO.	1.50	1.57
NAT. CABLE/WIRE/MF	0.46	0.45
NATIONAL ANITA INS	1.00	1.00
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	3.10	3.14
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.25	0.28
NATIONAL STREY BATTERY	2.61	2.60
PETRA BANK	0.35	0.35
PETRA JOR. INS.	1.16	1.16
PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.45	1.52
RAFA INDUSTRIAL	0.67	0.67
REAL ESTATE INV.	1.10	1.13
SHIPPING LINES	1.19	1.19
SPINNING WEAVING	2.03	2.00
THE HOUSING BANK	1.25	1.20
UNITED INSURANCE	3.01	3.01
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	0.65	0.68
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.96	0.91
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	1.37	1.38
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.37	1.38

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	67.00	67.50	68.00
STOCK	13.25	13.50	13.50	LC-B	30	31	30
AC-A	2.65	2.70	2.70	PK-A	28	29	28
ANS	31.50	32.00	31.50	PK-B	29	30	29
GLO	252.50	255.00	250.00	OIL SECTOR			
PLDT	2.90	2.95		BP-A	0.017	0.018	0.017
KPSI-B	3.40	3.50		BP-B	0.017	0.018	
SNC-A	150.00	151.00	150.00	LRC-A	0.0034	0.0038	
SNC-B	241.00			LRC-B	0.0034	0.0038	
MINING SECTOR				OPM-A	0.045	0.046	0.045
APX-A	0.02	0.02	0.02	OPM-B	0.045	0.046	0.046
APX-B	0.02	0.02	0.02	OV-A	0.029	0.03	0.03
AT-A	37.00	37.50	36.50	OV-B	0.03	0.031	

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMM. IND.	950,910	6,206,145	952.57	3.70
MINING	69,430,650	49,878,275	4,588.36	8.48
OIL	209,750,000	4,753,350	6.129	0.044
TOTAL	270,131,560	60,837,770	836.72	12.15

PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR							
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	67.00	67.50	67.00
SMC-A	150.00	151.00	150.00	BC-B	76.00	91.00	
SMC-B	239.00			LC-A	.30	.31	.30
SO-TIRE	36.00	37.00		LC-B	.30	.32	.31
PLDT	252.50	255.00	250.00	ZIP	.0075	.008	
AMSCOR-A2.65				OIL SECTOR			
AC-A	13.25	13.50	13.25	STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN
GLO	31.50	32.00	32.00	BP-A	.017	.018	.017
FER-A	2.22	2.24	2.24	BP-B	.018	.019	.018
FER-B	2.42	2.44		LRC-A	.0034	.0036	.0034
MINING SECTOR				LRC-B	.0034	.0038	
STOCK	LABAN	SELL	OPEN	OPN-A	.044	.045	.045
APX-A	.02	.021	.02	OPN-B	.045	.046	.046
APX-B	.02	.021	.02	OV-A	.029	.03	.03
AT-A	37.00	37.50	36.50	OV-B	.03	.031	.03
AT-B	38.00	38.50	38.00	TA	.021	.022	.022

US goods to lose the competitive edge in world markets

Fed raises discount rate to 7pc

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24. (UPI): The Federal Board, signalling its determination to raise interest rates and curb inflation, today hiked the rate it charges commercial banks from 6.5 per cent to seven per cent, the highest level since March 1986.

"In light of the inflationary pressures in the economy," the Treasury Department said, the Federal Reserve Board today "announced it increased the key discount rate to seven per cent from 6.5 per cent effective immediately."

Defied
"In taking the action, the board voted on requests submitted by the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kansas City and San Francisco," the announcement said.

The discount rate has been 6.5 per cent since Aug. 9, 1988.

The Federal Reserve Board then defied political considerations and raised its benchmark discount interest rate less than one week before the opening of the Republican national convention in New Orleans.

The news sent the value of the dollar soaring and raised fears that the trade deficit would suffer because US goods would lose the competitive edge in world markets they gained with the falling dollar.

Tumble
The Fed had kept the interest rate at six per cent from Sept. 11, 1987, when board in agreement with Alan Greenspan, the new chairman, raised the discount rate from 5-1/2 per cent.

Critics at the time "accused him of starting the countdown to the stock market crash" of Oct. 19, 1987. David Jones, senior economist at Aubrey G. Lanston Co., a New York securities firm said.

The last time the discount rate topped 6.5 per cent was in March 1986 when the Fed set a seven per cent rate, as interest rates continued a 5-year tumble from the double-digit levels of the early '80s. The discount rate peaked at 14 per cent in early 1981.

The discount rate is the interest rate the Fed charges depository institutions when they borrow from their district Federal Reserve Banks.

Tightening
The most recent hike follows a series of government reports indicating the nation's economy is growing at a brisk pace, three months of job creation at more than 250,000 a month and a report showing wholesale prices leaped one per cent in January.

Other inflationary signs in the economy were a spurt in retail sales, and strong industrial production increases pushing at the upper limits of factory capacity.

The combination has kept growth in the nation's gross national product above the levels the Fed considers sustainable and healthy.

The Fed has made a series of "slight tightening" moves since the spring, including raising interest rates on the short-term loans it makes to member banks from about 65/8 per cent in late March to above 9-1/4 in early February.

Some of the nation's biggest banks on Feb. 10 raised their prime lending rates by one-half percentage point to 11 per cent, marking the first time since 1984 the key interest rate has reached that level.

Other consumer interest rates began to climb shortly after the increase after easing slightly in the fall.

The further hike in the discount rate had been anticipated because of the relatively large gap between these commercial

rates and the Fed's discount rate, or the rate it charges major banks.

European central banks also began a round of major interest rate hikes in mid-December.

Overheated
As people have more discretionary income, they buy more, run up their credit cards and mortgages, all of which may send an overheated economy surging out of control, analysts said.

Also as the pool of people without jobs shrinks, workers can demand higher salaries as employers compete to attract employees.

However, recent government economic reports show real personal income rising only slowly after inflation is taken into account and wages not yet beginning to reflect the surge in industrial production fuelled by what many analysts are calling an "export boom."

Europe businessmen fear Rushdie affair will hit trade with Iran

LONDON, Feb. 24. (Reuters): The storm over Salman Rushdie's Satanic Verses has raised questions over a scramble by European firms to do business with Iran almost before the ink is dry on their new contracts.

The European Economic Community, which on Monday decided to withdraw heads of mission from Tehran in protest at Ayatollah Khomeini's death sentence on the British author, has stopped short of imposing formal trade sanctions against Iran.

But a tough political line by Britain and West Germany is already threatening to stall trade financing, needed if Iran is to rebuild after eight years of war with Iraq.

Jeopardise
"The European Economic Community wants to make a political point to Tehran," said Hans Heino Kopietz, political analyst at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

"It does not want to jeopardise trade relations but the row may well hit trade financing."

Some European companies had carefully maintained contacts dating back more than 10 years to the Shah of Iran's era. Others had painstakingly forged new ties with the revolutionary regime.

Ceasefire with Iraq last

August appeared to signal a new era of trade. European companies had expertise in key oil and power sectors. Iran had oil money and was contemplating large scale borrowing from Western banks.

The time between diplomatic and trade sanctions has become increasingly blurred since Monday and it is evident that some EEC nations are pursuing a harder line than others.

Sceptical
British businessmen now doubt that a British Technical Week planned for the end of March in Tehran will go ahead, if only because the exhibitors will not be allowed into Iran.

"The applications for visas are in," said Dennis Cumming, director of the Committee for Middle East Trade. "But we have no idea if they will be accepted... business is on hold."

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe made clear earlier this week he was sceptical about trade sanctions. But analysts say Britain's strong reaction to the Rushdie death threat means its businessmen can effectively put deals on hold.

West Germany appears to be pursuing an even harder line. Bonn has refused to rule out trade sanctions and has suspended talks with Tehran on a three to five billion mark (\$1.7 to 2.7 billion) credit line. Initial talks on

larger guarantees on West German exports to Iran have been frozen.

West German business, hoping for lucrative power generation projects, has protested and the conservative daily Die Welt said in an editorial: "The federal government should not allow itself to be pushed into economic sanctions."

Frustration among businessmen in West Germany and Britain has grown as it becomes clear that some EEC nations are reluctant to jeopardise their companies' business contracts.

Italy, Iran's third largest trading partner, has been keen to cash in on reconstruction and in January resolved a long-standing dispute over payment for port facilities at the Gulf town of Bandar Abbas.

Deals
Foreign Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero said then that Italian firms were negotiating deals worth around \$3 billion and the two nations signed a trade protocol.

"The accords signed last month are valid and we plan on adhering to them," a ministry spokesman said today.

In France, a Finance Ministry official said there were no plans to slow improving commercial relations with Iran after diplomatic ties were restored in June 1988.

Dollar firms

US discount rate hike depresses stocks, bonds

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. (Reuters): US stocks and bonds sank today and the dollar rose modestly after the Federal Reserve pushed up the discount rate to its highest level in nearly three years.

The US central bank said it raised the discount rate, at which it lends short-term funds to banks, to 7.0 per cent from 6.5 "in light of inflationary pressures in the economy."

The stock market has recently taken an equivocal view of tighter credit, at times encouraged by the Fed's apparent resolve to choke off inflation but at other times unnerved by higher borrowing costs. Wall Street took the latter view today as stocks fell from the opening bell.

Down
The Dow Jones industrial average was down 30.35 points at 2,259.11 shortly before midday, with declining issues leading advances by six to one in active trading.

Announcements by more major US banks that they raised the prime rate, the rate at which they lend to their best corporate clients, to 11.5 per cent from 11.0

also weighed on the market, traders said.

Chase Manhattan and Republic National Bank of New York raised their prime rates to that level late yesterday and were followed today by Citicorp, Chemical Bank and Manufacturers Hanover, among others.

Rates
"Rising interest rates spell trouble for the stock market," said Susan Del Signore, senior trader at Travellers Investment Management.

"The prime rate rise is the real surprise," said Larry Wachtel of Prudential-Bache Securities. "Rising short-term interest rates create alternatives to common stocks and inevitably should hurt," he added.

The hike in the discount rate also hit the treasury bond market, where bond prices fell half a point in early trading. The benchmark 30-year bond had slipped 16/32 to 96-24/32 by mid-morning, raising its yield to 9.20 per cent from 9.14 at yesterday's close.

The rate hike lent only mild support to the dollar on currency

markets, which appeared to have anticipated the discount rise, especially following yesterday's prime hikes. Higher interest rates would normally firm the dollar because they raise the rate of return on the US currency.

Indeed, some traders expressed disappointment that the discount rate had been lifted by only a half-point and accused the Fed of dragging its feet. "The Fed has followed an extreme policy of dragging its feet," said Andrew Hodge, a dealer with Banque Bruxelles Lambert.

The dollar initially fell on the discount rate rise as traders took profits, but it later gained ground. It rose to 182.45 marks and 126.30 yen by mid-morning, up from 182.20 and 126.15 at yesterday's New York close.

Increase
"The Fed was lagging the market, where this rate increase was already built in," said Charles Spence of First Interstate Bank in Los Angeles. "The market still seems to be bearish, even with the rate hike."

The gold fixed at \$388.40 per ounce in London was down

from 389.25 at the morning fixing, and down from 390.50 yesterday afternoon's fixing.

In London, shares were steady after falling from a half point hike in the US discount rate and prime rate increases by some US banks, which triggered a sharp sell-off on Wall Street.

Modest buying for the new account and a small bounce from the lows in the New York market after its early fall helped keep prices here steady in sluggish afternoon session, dealers said. By 1548 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 7.3 points to 2,023.9. The day's high of 2,031.5 was reached at 1411 GMT amid buying for the new account after yesterday's falls here.

Some dealers expressed surprise at the way the London market held onto part of the earlier gains during the afternoon. They suggested that some buyers remained underweight in some areas and were using the recent falls as an opportunity to buy.

Dealers said higher interest rates in the US was positive news in some respects because it

showed the US was taking steps to curb inflation. The rate hikes were also seen as helpful to exporters which generate dollar earnings.

But they said if the US rate rises put upward pressure on UK rates this could deter investment in equities, raise corporate borrowing costs and eat into company profits here.

High
ICI was up 6p to 1,167 in afternoon business, having earlier touched a quoted high of 1,184. Dealers said further consideration of yesterday's 1988 results, which were at the top end of expectations, was helping to support the shares.

Glaxo shares were up 9p to 1,252, helped by the steady dollar as was Beecham, up 2p to 560. Drugs group Wellcome, a big dollar earner, added 8p to 457.

Engineer FKI Babcock jumped 30p to 187 on news it is in talks which could lead to an offer for part of the group. FKI said if an offer is made, shareholders would receive cash and the rest of the firm would remain independently quoted.

Belgium consolidates dominance in world diamond trade

ANTWERP, Belgium, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Belgium consolidated its position as the world's leading trading centre of polished and rough diamonds in 1988, taking more than half the business, the industry said yesterday.

The Antwerp-based Diamond High Council said in its annual report that turnover in this northern Belgian port rose 27 per cent to \$12.5 billion.

"That boosts Antwerp's share in world trade to 52.7 per cent," said Mark van den Abeelen, the council's director-general.

"I'm a happy man," he told a news conference. "We remained number one, and hope to keep that position for many more years."

Imports
Van den Abeelen said Belgium diamond imports rose by 30 per cent to \$5.29 billion, exports by 25 per cent to \$6.23 billion.

The Antwerp diamond trade, where since the 15th century merchants have been importing, cutting, polishing and re-exporting the gems, now accounts for seven per cent of total Belgian exports.

For the first time, India became the major exporter of polished diamonds to Antwerp, pushing the Soviet Union into second place.

The US remained Antwerp's major market for polished diamonds, but interest is booming among Asian customers.

"The high-quality-minded Japanese customers clearly found what they were looking for in Antwerp," Van den Abeelen said.

Out of the total import of rough diamonds, almost half arrives straight from the London-based De Beers central selling organisation, while Zaire and Liberia are major suppliers of much of the rest.

Van den Abeelen said that despite the excellent results, Belgium still had to fight competition from countries with lower labour costs and less social security costs.

The Diamond High Council, formed in 1975 to represent the industry's interests, has campaigned successfully in recent years to maintain Antwerp's leading position.

Its campaign has included offering a \$1 million, diamond-studded racket trophy for the world's richest tennis tournament, the European Community champion-

Bid to boost trade ties

Bonn ready to offer scientific expertise to Kuwait

By Lima Al Khalafawi

KUWAITI businessmen appear keen on investing their money in West Germany and Kuwait, according to Dr Alfred Schmidt, the minister of economics and technology of the State of Hesse in the Federal Republic of Germany.

In a bi-annual meeting for members of the German Economic community, held in Kuwait last Monday, the official held talks with Kuwaiti counterparts. Talks focussed on expansion of trade, scientific training and applied educational co-operation between the two countries.

Expertise
Schmidt believed that Kuwaitis were disillusioned with their European investments, especially in Britain and Spain.

He expressed his country's readiness to co-operate with Kuwait by offering scientific expertise in the fields of solar



Dr Alfred Schmidt

energy, agriculture, traffic and high technology. He also discussed co-operation related to airport security and other issues of mutual interest.

Germany could offer expertise in the field of water networks which involved transportation over long distances — such as Kuwait's plans to bring in fresh

water from Iraq. Schmidt stated that the growth rate in Hesse is currently 4.5 per cent — higher than the Federal average which is 3.5 per cent. All economic sectors contributed to this high increase.

The Hessian economy profited in 1988 from local and international rise in demand. The local industrial corporation received seven per cent of extra orders, compared to the previous year. International orders rose higher than local areas 7.2 per cent and 6.6 per cent respectively, the official said.

In the meeting Dr Abdullah Al Mihalil, director-general of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training said that the issue of the education system is investment in human resources. Kuwait exerts every effort to enhance the potential of human development, he said.

Kuwait still faces many obstacles in this respect, he said as its budget of the training sector is

still very modest and does not cover actual needs.

This results in low educational standards. There is weak relationship between the Public Authority and the various sectors of the labour market — specially in the private sector.

Distribution
The Kuwaiti manpower distribution needs streamlining. The training programmes are still below standard required by sectors of the labour market. It is imperative to impress on Kuwaiti businessmen to co-operate closely with the Public Authority to train and employ Kuwaiti trainees.

He concluded that the Public Authority is working on an agreement with the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Federal Co-operation to arrange with concerned organisations in the Federal Republic of Germany for co-operation on projects to develop vocational training in Kuwait.

More effective action needed to control foreign debt

Indian economy sustains momentum of industrial growth

NEW DELHI, Feb. 24. (UPI): India's economy has recovered from the century's worst drought and should achieve a 9 per cent growth rate for fiscal 1988-89, but "more effective action" is needed to control foreign debt and a growing trade deficit, a government report said today.

"The economy has shown a strong recovery in agricultural production and sustained the momentum of industrial growth during 1988-89," said the finance ministry's annual economic survey for the fiscal year that ends March 31.

The report was released four days before Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government was to present to parliament its proposed budget for fiscal 1989-90, the fifth and final of his five-year administration. General elections are due before the end of 1989.

Survey

The survey said an overall growth rate of 9 per cent should be reached before the close of the current fiscal year, compared to a 3.6 per cent level for 1987-88, during which India experienced the most severe drought of the century.

Following previous droughts, the affects on agricultural

production continued into the following fiscal year, the report said. But, it noted, such an occurrence in 1988-89 was offset by improvements in farming and irrigation. "Prudent management" of food supplies and remedial government policies.

The report said that good rains during 1988-89 coupled with drought relief programmes also helped, with agricultural production projected to register an increase of 17 per cent to 20 per cent, possibly exceeding a target of 166 million tons.

Lowest
Industrial growth was put at 7.5 per cent, the lowest in three years, but still higher than for the decades before the 1980s, the report said.

The report noted that the government, which controls the prices of major commodities, was able to bring inflation down from 10.6 per cent in 1987-88 to under 5 per cent in January. Many experts, however, dispute this figure, contending that inflation in the prices of basic goods is currently about 40 per cent at the local level.

On a more serious note, the survey said that the government must take steps to address a massive external debt of about \$350 billion — about \$36.6 billion —

attributed in part to borrowing from international lenders due to a shortage in foreign exchange.

Increased borrowing was required to help finance rising imports, which grew by 27.4 per cent, continuing to outstrip exports, the level of which rose by 26.4 per cent, the report said. It put the trade deficit at \$66 billion, or about \$4.4 billion.

"The performance of the economy," has highlighted the need for more effective action to tackle the linked problems of the balance of payments deficit and budgetary imbalances," the report said.

Lebanon's bank employees strike

BEIRUT, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Central Bank employees began an indefinite strike today to support their governor, Edmond Naim, in a dispute with one of Lebanon's two rival governments.

Bank sources said at least 800 employees stopped work. Major-General Michel Aoun, who heads a cabinet in Christian East Beirut, has accused Naim of misusing his authority and failing to control financial manipulation.

Turkey stocks at year's high

ISTANBUL, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Speculators surged onto the floor of the Istanbul Stock Exchange this week, sending the index up 7.9 per cent to a 1989 high today, dealers said.

"The excitement is firing up at last," said broker Mustafa Guler. "There were a thousand people at the bourse today. Before there used to be only a hundred or so."

The index hit a new high each day this week, closing at 424.59, its best since last November. Today's trading volume was also at a 1989 record of 1,042 million lira (\$500,000), double the previous week's average.

Dealers

One of Istanbul's top foreign exchange dealers said he had moved into stocks in recent days because "stocks were so cheap — many of them are even under their book prices."

Brokers anticipate good company results due to be announced in March, and stocks have also been helped by the expectation of slower inflation and lower bank deposit interest rates.

A \$60-million Turkish investment fund underwritten by the International Finance Corporation is also due for launch by mid-year. The stock index touched a speculative high of 1,332 in August 1987.

Unit trust funds surge to £45.9b

LONDON, Feb. 24. The value of unit trust funds under management increased by £4.3 billion during January to £45.9 billion. The increase, which was the largest rise in a single month, was mostly due to the surge in the London stock market during January. Some 70 per cent of the funds under management are invested in the United Kingdom, according to the Daily Telegraph.

But the 10.5 per cent rise does not restore the total invested in unit trusts to the pre-crash level. In September 1987, this topped £50 billion.

Sales

Last month, gross sales of unit trusts were the second highest since the October 1987 crash at £846 million.

In March last year, sales were £50 million higher but £105 million of this was accounted for in the utilisation of investment trusts and were also inflated by tax year-end bed and breakfast deals.

Repurchases of £521 million resulted in net new investment of £325 million, which is 139 per cent higher than January last year. This is the second highest

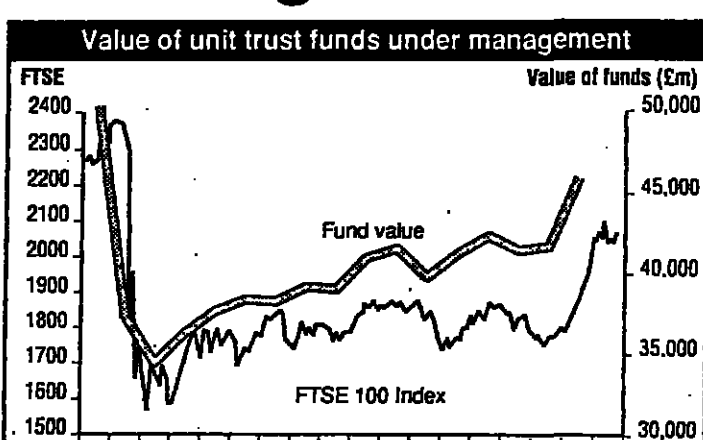


figure since the crash.

Last September, £158 million of internal Royal Life money boosted the net investment to £385 million.

Investor
But, during January, the number of unit holder accounts fell by 51,000. This is the ninth successive month that this has fallen. It now stands at 4.84 million. The Unit Trust Association assumes that each unit trust investor has three holdings giving a total number of investors of about 1.75 million.

The chairman of the association, Bill Stuttford, said: "The figures are very reassuring and I hope they are a reflection of increased confidence in unit trusts."

But he added: "January is always a good month. You cannot read too much into it."

Unit trust groups report that sales during the first half of February were also buoyant. But the number of investors has continued to decline as unit holders locked in by the fall in prices in October 1987 sell to cut their losses.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Australian shares had a listless day of largely options-related and professional trading. The All Ordinaries index gained 4.3 points to 1,485.3.

TOKYO: The Tokyo stock market was closed for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito. The Nikkei index stood at Thursday's close, a record 32,452.49.

HONG KONG: Share prices closed easier, having recouped most of today's losses in volatile trade that pushed the Hang Seng index briefly below 3,100 points. The index ended 11.03 points lower at 3,114.23.

SINGAPORE: The stock market finished an erratic session mostly lower after active trading. The Straits Times industrial index closed 0.79 of a point higher at 1,135.31.

BOMBAY: Share prices closed higher after a sedate start on expectations that next Tuesday's budget would contain incentives for industry. Tata Steel rose 25 rupees to 1,226.25 and Hindustan Aluminium 3.5 to 196.

FRANKFURT: Shares ended firmer, partially reversing the sharp declines of the previous two days. Yesterday's Wall Street rise helped support prices. The Dax index rose 16.34 to 1,288.04.

ZURICH: Shares lost much of their earlier gains and closed little changed. The market was overshadowed by interest rate worries. The All-Share Swiss index rose 0.2 to 969.9.

PARIS: Prices ended lower in despondent trade depressed by news of a rise in the US Federal Reserve's discount rate, but with the retail sector posting gains. The 50-share price indicator ended 0.64 down.

LONDON: Shares were steady after falling from the afternoon highs on news of a half point hike in the US discount rate. By 1548 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 7.3 points to 2,023.9.

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks, especially blue chips, fell back to session lows after a partial recovery amid futures-related selling. The Dow was down 32 at 2,262 and decliners overwhelmed gaining issues.

Kuwait to supply Pakistan with oil on special terms

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 24. (OPECNA): Kuwait is to supply Pakistan with oil on special terms as a gesture of solidarity designed to help its fellow Muslim country overcome its present economic difficulties.

Radio Pakistan, quoting official sources, said an agreement to this effect was signed during the recent visit of a Kuwaiti delegation to Pakistan.

Pakistan, which has rich deposits of natural gas in its Baluchistan province and elsewhere, has struck oil at several points, especially in the southern province of Sindh over the last few years and is now producing nearly 50,000 BPD.

A number of leading international oil companies, in association with the state-run Oil and Gas Development Corporation, are exploring for oil in various parts of the country, including offshore the port city of Karachi.

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NUGRA, one bedroom flat or sharing accommodation required for a small Pakistani family. Tele. Mr. Zahir 2669204. (AT1-MUS-TM-3)

FOR SALE Furniture

IKEA furniture - different items for sale. Tele. 5339464. (AT5-46160-3)

Cars

CITROEN, 1986 model, automatic, red, 40,000 kms with AC, in excellent condition, KD 1400. Tele. 2525343, 5756688. (AT1-46193-3)

OLDSMOBILE Cutlass 1980, automatic, with 2 doors and AC, in good condition, KD500. Serious enquiries only. Tele. Mr. Moneer 4746362. (AT6-46183-3)

CHEVROLET Sprint 1.3 GL 1986, white, automatic, four doors with hatchback, AC, stereo cassette and radio, lady owner. In excellent condition. KD1250. Tele. 4884485. (AT1-46196-3)

SUZUKI jeep, 4-wheel drive late 1986. Black, insured up to Nov 89, one owner from new, well maintained, with AC and stereo in outstanding condition. KD1,200 only. Tele. Mr. Ashlan 4878197, anytime answer-phone. (AT6-46191-3)

BMW 520i, 1982, with sunroof, AC and 4 doors, in excellent condition. KD1,800. Tele. 3722797. (AT5-46128-3)

TOYOTA Landcruiser, 4 wheel drive, 1980 AC white, 42,000 kms, insured up to one year and reconditioned, KD650 ono. cash. Contact Rudy, Faiha, Area 7, Ibn Hani St. House 29, 8 am - 1 pm, Friday and Saturday only. (AT6-46172-2)

BUICK Skylark 1979, registered upto January 1990, KD300. Tele. 2449501 ext. 2372 mornings, 3903475 afternoons. (AT6-46182-3)

AUDI 80, 1986 model, automatic, red, 56,000 kms, in clean condition. Regularly maintained. Lady owner leaving Kuwait. KD2000. Tele. 3902105. (AT1-46194-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool

Qatar Real Estate
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Available domestic labourers from Philippines, India and Sri Lanka. Cooks, tailors, maids, painters, mechanics, electricians, drivers, farmers and all types of labourers.

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For a carpentry workshop with previous experience, Kuwaiti driving licence and a transferable residence.

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Maids, labourers, cooks, tailors, painters, mechanics, electricians, drivers and farmers from Philippines, India and Sri Lanka. Employment bi-dates are available.

Tele. 2409921

REQUIRED

Driver with Kuwait driving licence, Cook with experience, Ladies Tailors and Lady Secretary, Mechanic, Electrician and Beautician. Also Housemaid of Goa or Sri Lanka.

For details Call : Mrs. Saleem, Tel : 2528240

MARKET PLACE

NISSAN Laurel, 1983 model, manual, beige/brown, with AC and 4 doors, in good condition, KD625. Tele. Mr. Akram, 4310039, 7 am - 2 pm. 2619569, Res. (AT6-46164-3)

HONDA Prelude, silver blue metallic, insured for 12 months, fully automatic, with sunroof. Pioneer stereo in excellent condition. Has to be seen. KD1,295. Tele. Mr. Ashlan 4878197, anytime answer-phone. (AT6-AS-TM-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

LIVE-IN Filipino maid/cook (and other duties) for an American. Honest, reliable, non-Muslim. Must love pets. Good English, under 28 years. References. Tele. 4838267. (AT5-46139-3)

MAID required for an American family, part-time or live-in, references required. Tele. 2407920, after 3pm. (AT1-46199-3)

Wanted

CIVIL engineer, European specialised in marine works, at present RE on breakwater project in Kuwait, available for new assignment in Gulf area June/July. Tele. 965-3902105. (AT1-46195-3)

MAID, Sri Lankan, 6 years working experience with British and American families, seeks employment with English or American families. Requires accommodation for husband. Tele. 2626249, 9 am - 1 pm. 4.30 - 8.30 pm. (AT5-46162-3)

INDUSTRIAL computers - digital controls - SCADA - vast experience on Honeywell TDC4500 and TDC2000, experience in micros + SCI's SCADA system. Write to: John Diamante, 314-2777 Kipling Ave, Toronto, Canada M9V-4M2. Tele. (416) 7429085. (AT6-46181-2)

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MATHEMATICS Std. VII for girl student of the Carmel school, preferably in Ras Salmiya. Tele. 5731438. (AT5-46171-3)

Transport

TRANSPORT required for a lady from Abbasiya near Gulf Supermarket to Shuwaikh Arab Times office (one way) at 10.30 am. Tel. 4813566 ext. 287 from 11 am to 7.00 pm.

REQUIRED from Salmiya to Shuwaikh daily, at 8.30 am. Tele. 4836126, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT5-46168-3)

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Cost, KD4 for 2 consecutive days and KD5 for 3 consecutive days. There is a limitation of 25 words including name, number and time, per advertisement.

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Again it is contained within its own distinctive border. Colour, both spot and full, is available depending on which page the advertisement is placed, at the cost of 25% extra, per colour. This type of advertisement promotes products and services available to the public.

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Advertisements will only be accepted when sent in on the Arab Times classified coupon or preferably, completed at the Arab Times Advertising Department.

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Advertisements should be submitted with the text typed or clearly printed, with any artwork enclosed.

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Advertisements should be submitted with the film, artwork or bromides complete and ready for printing. Always confirm with the Arab Times Advertising Department on sizing, well before placing your advertisement.

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Special offer from 20th Feb to 28th Feb 1989.

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4 bedrooms, large kitchen, plus hall/saloon - KD450 with w/e
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TNT Skypak wishes to celebrate the Kuwait National Day by offering a 50% discount to all walk-in cash clients on the 25th and 26th of February.

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For further information
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Each day in the classified pages of the Arab Times

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کوئٹہ میں عورتوں کو روزگار اور تجارت کے کافی مواقع حاصل ہیں

— رائٹر کے غلبہ شادی کی رپورت

[illegible]

پہلی تصویر کے پڑھنے اور پھر اس کی فروخت ہے۔
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[illegible]

ہم نے سب سے پہلے ان کی فضا میں حاکم کی حیثیت سے حکومت
 "اعلا" "سینٹر اور ہرگز نہیں شکر حرکت کر کے اپنی "محکمات
 اور بیعت سے خود ان کی فضا میں ہیں۔
 گریٹ سال کے ایک سال کے بعد، میں نے ان کی فضا میں
 ۱۴۸۸ء تا ۱۴۹۰ء یعنی ہر سال کے ہزار ملت سے مستتر
 مریضی کا علاج کیا کیا۔
 تازہ پانی کی فراہمی
 پانی کی فراہمی کے تحت کے حمام کے لئے ایک اہم مسئلہ
 ہے۔ اس کے بعد جس قدر قدرتی تازہ پانی کی فراہمی کی جاتی ہے۔ تل

[illegible][illegible]

A black and white photograph of a city skyline across a body of water. The skyline includes a prominent tower with a cross on top. The foreground is dark and textured, possibly water or a beach.

[illegible]

کے لٹری کے دو ٹیکروں اللہ تاس اور الرقہ پر قتل الما لعلہ ہے

کار بہتر و نگرانی

۱۰۰

کھا کھاتی تھیں اپنے اقربا و اہل پر نظر پڑتی تھیں۔ چہرہ تہہ میوں

ہدایت کی یاد کافی اور سچ میں فعال اور موثر رہن
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ڈاکٹر انیسٹ، یعنی اعلیٰ اور نیچے کی مرکز کا قیام شامل
ہے۔

[illegible]

یہودی ریاست سے تیار ہوا یہودیوں ایک عرب ملک عام کوہیں
کوئٹہ کو بنانے کا بھی فیصلہ کر کے ایک کشیدوں سکڑے
دو بیٹے شاعر عرب سے تھائیابی حاصل کرتے تھے۔
۱۹۵۷ء میں کوئٹہ کی آبادی صرف دو لاکھ ۱۹۵۸ء
میں اضافہ لاکھ سے تجاوز کر چکی تھی۔ اس لیے
مقدار اضافہ لاکھ سے بڑھ کر دو لاکھ چھ لاکھ ۱۹۵۸
میں تک پہنچ گیا۔ اس میں سے سترہ لاکھ کوئٹہ
کے تھائیابی حاصل کر چکی تھی۔ کوئٹہ کے جسے
لے کر برصالح حکومت کو بھی رقم خرما بھی ملتی رہی ہے۔
حکومت نے صرف دو لاکھ خرما خرما کوئٹہ کوئٹہ
چاہنے کے اقدامات کیے تاکہ اسے اور چھوڑ نہ سکیں۔
آرٹسٹ چھوڑنے کی رقم کے مسئلہ کوئٹہ ریاست کیا۔
کوئٹہ سٹاٹسٹک ڈیپارٹمنٹ کی تحقیق سے اس میں
تین لاکھ خاندان آباد ہیں۔ اس میں کوئٹہ کے تھائیابی
صرف تھائیابی کوئٹہ کے کل کوئٹہ کا تھائیابی اور آسمان اور
قبائل اور تھائیابی کوئٹہ کے تھائیابی کوئٹہ کے تھائیابی
اس میں سترہ لاکھ کوئٹہ کے تھائیابی کوئٹہ کے تھائیابی

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ع
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کے پڑوسرت موقع پر ا
وزیر اعظم شیخ سعد العبدل
دلی مبارک

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 کے لئے (پارلیمنٹ) کی ضرورت ہو، کیونکہ ان کے لئے ایک ایوان
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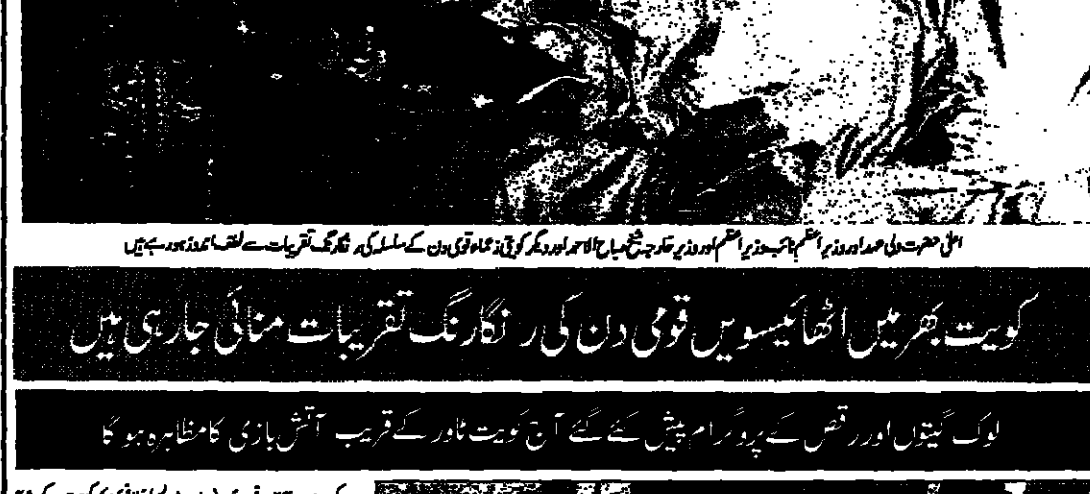
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مہم کویت کے ۱۸ ویں قومی دن کے پُر مسرت موقع پر اعلیٰ حضرت امیر شیخ جابر الاحمد الجابر
 اعلیٰ حضرت دلی عہدہ وزیر اعظم شیخ سعد العبد اللہ السالم الصباح کویت کی حکومت اور عوام کو
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<p>شرکتہ سفاط کو التجاریہ</p>			<p>آئی سی ایچ پی کمپنی سہ ماہی</p>	
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ہفتہ ۱۹ رجب ۱۴۰۹ھ ۲۵ فروری ۱۹۸۹ء چھٹا ایڈیٹر احمد جبار اللہ



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کویت بھر میں اٹھائیسویں قومی دن کی رنگارنگ تقریبات منائی جارہی ہیں

لوگ بیٹوں اور تھیں کے پروگرام پیش کے آج کویت شہر کے قریب آتش بازی کا مظاہرہ ہو گا

کویت ۲۴ فروری (ایس پی) کویت کے ۲۸ ویں قومی دن کی تقریبات شہر کا آواز بھر رہی ہیں۔ شہر کے مختلف حصوں میں تقریبات منعقد کی جا رہی ہیں۔ شہر کے مختلف حصوں میں تقریبات منعقد کی جا رہی ہیں۔ شہر کے مختلف حصوں میں تقریبات منعقد کی جا رہی ہیں۔

پاکستان نے کم لاگت کے جدید میزائل تیار کر لیے

یہ میزائل امریکی اسلحہ کے بجائے پاکستانی اسلحہ کے ساتھ تیار کیے گئے ہیں

اسلام آباد ۲۴ فروری (ایس پی) پاکستان کے دفاعی شعبہ نے امریکی اسلحہ کے بجائے پاکستانی اسلحہ کے ساتھ تیار کیے گئے ہیں۔ یہ میزائل امریکی اسلحہ کے بجائے پاکستانی اسلحہ کے ساتھ تیار کیے گئے ہیں۔

پاکستان کے ضمنی انتخاب میں پیپلز پارٹی کی فتح کے جلسوں پر فرنگ ایک شخص ہلاک

پنجاب میں ایک شخص ہلاک ہوا

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امریکی سینٹ کی کمیٹی نے وزیر دفاع کی ماضی کی مسترد کر دی

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مشرقی وسطی شامی شہر ہونے والا ہے اور اخبار

عرب ٹائمز

ہفتہ ۱۹ رجب ۱۴۰۹ھ ۲۵ فروری ۱۹۸۹ء چھٹا ایڈیٹر احمد جبار اللہ

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SPORTS

BECKER BRUSHES ASIDE PATE

Agassi struggles to beat Courier

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 24, (AP) Top-seeded Andre Agassi quelled a challenge from Jim Courier 6-3 7-6 (7-3) on the eighth match point last night in the \$602,500 US Pro Indoor Tennis Championships.

Courier, seeded 15th, won over the crowd of 10,006 with a rally from 1-3 in the second set. He pulled even at 3-3 after breaking Agassi's service for the first time in a hard-fought fifth game that ended with Agassi driving a ball into the net.

From then on, it was a battle of the hard-hitting 18-year-old Americans rallied from the baseline and attacked the net at every chance. Courier fought off two match points in the ninth game, then tied the score at 5-5 after surviving another match point.

Escaped

Agassi lost two more match points in the 12th game to send the game into a tiebreaker.

At 1-6 in the tie-breaker, Courier escaped two more match points before he finally bowed when he sent a cross-court shot wide.

The outcome was marked contrast to Boris Becker's crushing 6-1 6-1 victory over 16th-seeded David Pate earlier yesterday.

In other matches, No. 3 seed and two-time defending champion Tim Mayotte defeated



Agassi: made to fight for his victory

Milan Srejber of Czechoslovakia 6-3 6-4; 10th-seeded Christo van Rensburg of South Africa eliminated No. 7 Amos Mansdorf of Israel 6-7 (6-8), 6-4, 6-4; No. 11 Robert Seguso upended No. 6 Kevin Curren 6-2 6-7 (6-8), 7-5 and No. 4 Mikael Pernfors of Sweden defeated Roger Smith of the Bahamas 6-1 6-3.

Becker, the No. 2 seed, and ranked third in the world, won 14 of the first 15 points and the first five games against Pate. He then closed out the first set in the seventh game despite hitting three double-faults.

Pate won the opening game of the second set, but Becker came back with his powerful serves

and volleys to win the next six games. Pate set up the match point with a double-fault and Becker clinched the victory with a backhand passing shot down the line.

"From the first ball on, I was right in the match, and I kept pressure on him and didn't let go," Becker said.

Becker, who won seven Nabisco Grand Prix titles last and one already this year, was to meet Van Rensburg in a quarterfinal battle this evening. Agassi was to face eighth-seeded Dan Goldie, Mayotte was to play No. 5 Brad Gilbert, and Seguso was to meet Pernfors.

Mayotte broke Srejber's service twice in the second set, taking a 5-2 lead with a forehand passing shot that caught Srejber racing to the net. But the unseeded Czechoslovak came back to break Mayotte's service in the eighth game.

Srejber continued with his attacking game, and at 4-5, fought off two match points with winning volleys. But on the next match point, while he was camped at the net, Mayotte caught Srejber with a perfectly placed lob.

Van Rensburg led 6-4 in the tiebreaker of his first set against Mansdorf but lost two set points, including one on a double-fault. Mansdorf went ahead 7-6 with a placement shot to lead for the

first time in the set, then Van Rensburg sailed a service return long.

Mansdorf missed a lunging volley from midcourt to lose his service in the third set, giving Van Rensburg a 4-3. In the final game, Van Rensburg followed two double-faults with an ace, and won the match when Mansdorf's attempted passing shot with heavy topspin went over the baseline.

Seguso broke Curren's service twice in the first set and won on an overhead smash after serving an ace to reach set point. Curren led 6-5 in the second set before Seguso pulled even two aces and two errors by Curren. In the tiebreaker, Curren led 3-1 before Seguso rallied to 3-3.

Ahead

Seguso, a member of the US Davis Cup team, squandered two match points and Curren went ahead 7-6 with a forehand passing shot. Curren then won the set with a backhand placement down the line.

In the third set, Curren took a 3-2 lead with a service break as Seguso volleyed wide. Seguso then recovered from 3-5 to win four consecutive games, the last one breaking Curren's serve at love.

Pernfors used a good topspin forehand to pin Smith to the baseline in the first singles match of the day.



Navratilova eases into quarterfinals

OAKLAND, California, Feb. 24, (AP) Top-seeded Martina Navratilova used an impressive serve and volley display yesterday to advance to the quarterfinals of the \$250,000 Virginia Slims of California tournament by defeating France's Isabelle Demongeot, 6-3, 6-1.

Also advancing with lopsided victories were No. 2 seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union and No. 3 seeded Zina Garrison of Houston.

Blitzed

Zvereva, the 17-year-old who is ranked eighth in the world, beat Katrina Adams of Chicago, 6-3, 6-2. Garrison, 25, blitzed Andrea Holikova of Czechoslovakia, 6-0 6-1 in 46 minutes. Garrison lost just six points in the first set.

The 21-year-old Holikova ranks 139th. Adams is 134th. The Navratilova match took 49 minutes and the world's second-ranked player lost seven points on her serve.

Navratilova, ranked second in the world, lost seven points on her serve in the 49th-minute match against the 47th-ranked Demongeot.

"I expect to play better as a tournament goes along," said Navratilova, seeking her fifth title here. "I'm getting used to the surroundings. I've very happy with my serve. The second set I think I missed only one first serve. I'd like to keep that up."

Navratilova broke Demongeot at 2-all but immediately fell behind 0-40 on her serve. Regaining her composure and volleying with precision, Navratilova ended the game by serving three straight aces. She broke again in the ninth game to close the set 6-3.

In the second set, Demongeot double-faulted twice in a row to give Navratilova a break in the second game. Navratilova was down a break point the next game, having missed two first serves, but pulled out of the spot with flawlessly angled volleys. She completed the 6-1 set in 18 minutes.

In an earlier match, unseeded Gigi Fernandez of Miami advanced to the quarterfinals by defeating Greichen Majors of San Antonio, 6-3, 6-4.

Majors ranks 42nd and Fernandez 57th.

Oddly, Garrison almost reversed a role she had the week before in a tournament in Fairfax, Virginia. In losing in the finals there to No. 1 player Steffi Graf of West Germany, she lost the first 20 points. In the first set against Holikova, Garrison won 24 of 30 points in 17 minutes.

In such a one-sided match, Garrison, an Olympic gold medalist in doubles last year, said she tries to get to every ball and "do something with it." This way, she keeps her aggression intact for the next round.

Calcavecchia finishes two shots ahead of Crenshaw

MIAMI, Feb. 24, (Reuter): American Mark Calcavecchia had what he called "a good day" as he battled the wind to shoot a seven-under-par 65 for the first-round lead in the \$1.3 million Doral Open golf tournament yesterday.

Calcavecchia, already a two-time winner on the PGA Tour this year, had an eagle and five birdies for a two-stroke lead after a marvellous tour of the blue course at the Doral Country Club.

Winner of the Phoenix and Los Angeles tournaments, Calcavecchia said: "I didn't think it was that easy today but I had a good day. I hit a lot of good drives, a lot of good everything and I made some putts."

Defending champion Ben Crenshaw opened with a rather unusual five-under-par 67 for second place.

Crenshaw, who started on the 10th tee, was one-over-par 37 for his first nine holes. Over his second nine he was six-under 30 including an eagle on the par-5 first hole.

"I felt great when I started," Crenshaw said, "just a little unprepared. I only played nine holes in practice because I was so busy with other matters."

Americans Wayne Levi and Bruce Lietzke were next in line, tied third place at 68. Eleven players were bunched at 69 including Americans Tom Kite, Fred Couples, Bobby Wadkins and Australian Steve Elkington.

Conditions

Strong, gusty winds and an uncharacteristic chill made for difficult conditions and resulted in some high scores.

The European contingent had their share of trouble as evidenced by the one-over-par 73s turned in by Spaniard Seve Ballesteros, Bernhard Langer of West Germany and Briton Nick Faldo, and the 74 carded by Sandy Lyle of Britain.

Jack Nicklaus, a two-time winner at Doral, shot a 78.

Lyle, the US Masters champion, returned after two weeks off. "I was a bit rusty and in this wind, it didn't help me. I didn't have the confidence to do what I wanted," he said.

Calcavecchia was paired with Nicklaus. "I was glad to be paired with him because he is the greatest player the game has ever known. He may not be as great as he used to be (at age 49), but he still is great to play with."

De Long hits 2-under-par 70 for top spot

SYDNEY, Feb. 24, (Reuter): American David De Long heeded some timely advice from his wife Cheri to jump into the halfway lead in the Australian PGA national tournament player's golf championship today.

De Long squeezed a two-under-par 70 out of the Riverside Oaks course in time to have lunch in the clubhouse with a six-under-par 36-hole total of 138.

He will start his third round leading by one shot from three Australians, Rodger Davis, who shot a 67, Ian Baker-Finch and Jeff Woodland.

Further

Pre-tournament favourite Greg Norman is primed for attack one shot further back after his second 70. He is in a group of five including overnight leader Rober Mackey, Craig Parry and Peter Fowler along with Swede Anders Gullner.

Norman had most of the crowd today, but De Long wouldn't have swapped his gallery of one for anything. After missing short putts for par on his third and fourth holes, he was all ears. "I had no idea where the ball was going to go," De Long said. "But after the sixth Cheri told me my head was moving around and I had to do something about it. Fortunately, I had it figured out by the seventh."

The 29-year-old San Franciscan parred the seventh, holed from five metres for a birdie on the short eighth, and set up another with a magnificent third shot on the long ninth.

Jahangir out with back injury

SALZBURG, Austria, Feb. 24, (Reuter): World champion Jahangir Khan of Pakistan withdrew from the second round of the Austrian Open squash tournament yesterday because of a back injury.

Jahangir suffered the injury on his way to beating Britain's Robert Owen in Wednesday's opening match.

He returned to his London home where he hopes to recover in time for the British Open in April.

Jahangir's enforced absence gave Briton Phil Kenyon a place in the quarterfinals.

Wells warns Lewis to stop accusing others of drug use

GLASGOW, Scotland, Feb. 24, (AP) Former Olympic sprint champion Allan Wells has warned six-time gold medalist Carl Lewis to stop accusing other athletes of taking drugs and says he "wouldn't be surprised if one day his halo slipped and he was the American track star."

In a column in the March edition of Scotland's Runner magazine, Wells accused Lewis of riding a "snowy white chariot against drugs" and bringing all athletes under suspicion.

Lewis, who won the 100-metre dash at the 1980 Olympics in Moscow, questioned the consistency of current drug regulations world-wide and asked whether "there is a possibility of a steroid test in the future?"

"Was his crime taking the drug, or was it getting caught?" Wells wrote in the magazine published yesterday. "It is only human for coaches and athletes to sometimes try and obtain every means possible to make the athlete the best."

Suggested

Wells, who lives in southern England, said Lewis also faced drug accusations after winning his first Olympic 100-metre race in 1984 in Los Angeles when it was suggested that he had used hormones and other substances.

"Carl Lewis, not the most popular of athletes, constantly rides his snowy white chariot against drugs," Wells said. "The problem with Lewis is that not only is he a sore loser, but he also has a short memory."

"Remember the testosterone accusations, human growth hormone and other 'natural' substances?"

After the 1987 world championships, in which Johnson set a world record of 9.83 seconds while edging Lewis in the 100, the American charged some of the gold medalists at the event were using drugs.

Wells said Lewis' accusations, "whether they were correct or not, were ethically wrong."

"What he did was to cast a shadow over the whole athletic fraternity," Wells said. "Everyone who had ever taken part in the athletics was under suspicion."

Lewis recently said women track and field athletes are the worst drug offenders and, in an interview with students in Pennsylvania, said he had heard American sprinter Florence Griffith Joyner used drugs. He later apologised to Griffith Joyner, who won three gold medals in Seoul.

Unless

Wells dared Lewis, a born-again Christian, to "back up his statements with proof" and said an athlete should not point the finger at another competitor unless he has been told personally by that competitor of drug abuse.

"Heresay, malicious rumours and jealousy are not grounds for complaint. How can an athlete be allowed to constantly belittle his sport without retribution?" Wells wrote.

"Lewis should stick to singing God's praises and concentrate on keeping his own nose clean, because I would not be surprised if one day his halo slipped and choked him."

Joyner-Kersey skipping world championship

Top stars to miss Budapest meet

NEW YORK, Feb. 24, (Reuter): Some of the world's top athletics stars said on Wednesday they were skipping the World Indoor Championships in Budapest because they were preparing for the outdoor season.

US Olympic sprinter Carl Lewis, who is competing in the US Olympic trials in the 100-metre dash, is passing up the world championships. A Soviet coach said he believed Sergei Bubka, the world record holder in the pole vault, also was not going.

Never

"It's a long season," said Joyner-Kersey, who has been running the 55-metre hurdles indoors this season. "Going to Budapest for the world championships is a long season. I'm not going to miss it."

Kersey was at a news conference for the United States Indoor Track and Field Championships scheduled for today in

New York.

Diane Dixon, the perennial US indoor 400 metre champion, admitted she would not be too disappointed if she did not qualify. "Who wants to go all the way to Budapest after a long indoor season when you should be preparing for the more important outdoor season?" she said.

Dixon's main rival in the 400, Soviet Olympic gold medalist Olga Bryzgina, also was clear about her priorities.

"It doesn't fit into my preparations for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics," she said through an interpreter.

Soviet pole vaulter Rodion Gataulin, who has set two indoor world records this year, is going, and his coach Valery Kogan expects him to dominate his event in Budapest. He will be the best pole vaulter," said

Kogan.

Kogan said he did not think Bubka would be in Budapest to challenge Gataulin. "I think Bubka feels the time isn't right for the two to meet," he said. Gataulin had no comment on the possibility Bubka would not be at the championships.

The first two American finishers in world championship events will qualify for next weekend's meet in Budapest. If they decline the world berths, runners-up will likely be invited to compete.

Defending

Four Americans qualified last week for the world championships. They are Floyd Heard and Kevin Little in the men's 200 metres, and Mark McKoy and Clarence Daniels in the men's 400. McKoy is the defending world indoor champion at 400 metres.



Joyner-Kersey

Mota ready for Los Angeles race

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 24, (AP): Rosa Mota, the reigning women's Olympic marathon gold medalist, said yesterday that she has come a long way from her teens in Portugal where sexist men saw her running and yelled "stay home. You should be cooking."

Those taunts only fuelled her desire to excel, said Mota, who highlights the women's lineup for the Los Angeles marathon to be run March 5.

Speaking by telephone from her home in Oporto, Portugal, the diminutive long-distance runner said she has her non-traditional parents to thank for their "unusual" support of her athletic goals.

She said the determination that earned her a bronze medal in the 1984 Olympic marathon in Los Angeles and the gold in Seoul at the 1988 Games comes from "wanting to show men that women can do as well as they do."

"It is stimulating for me to do what people say I cannot," said Mota, 30, who stands 5-1 and weighs 99 pounds.

Shot

Her international success made her a role model in Portugal, where thousands of women now run regularly. "I am very proud," Mota said. "It is very good for women to be in sports."

For the past two years, Mota

has won the Boston marathon. She has also won the Chicago marathon twice.

If she wins in Los Angeles she would become eligible for the John Hancock Financial Service triple crown bonus of \$100,000 if she goes on to win the New York marathon on Nov. 5.

She would also have a shot at the Mercedes-Benz \$300,000 coast-to-coast challenge bonus for winning both the Los Angeles and New York runs.

But dollar signs aren't what push the Olympic champion, who says she is looking forward to running in Los Angeles again because of fond memories from her 1984 bronze-medal performance.

Tyson favoured to stop Bruno early in title fight

LAS VEGAS, Feb. 24, (Reuter): If looks counted for anything, the magnificently-muscled Frank Bruno would have a great chance of upsetting Mike Tyson for the undisputed heavyweight boxing title of the world tomorrow.

Unfortunately for the Briton, his rather average ring skills do not match his physique and Tyson is a hot favourite to beat Bruno in their scheduled 12-round fight.

The card at the 9,860-seat indoor arena at the Las Vegas Hilton also includes a 12-round World Boxing Council super-featherweight title fight between champion Azumah Nelson of Ghana and Mexican Mario Martinez.

Expected

Julian Jackson of the Virgin Islands will defend his World Boxing Association junior middleweight title against Brazilian Francisco de Jesus on the same card.

Tyson, expected to weigh about 98.89 kg tomorrow to Bruno's 104.3 kg, is a 7-1 on favourite, with some fans saying the real bet is not if Tyson will knock out the gentlemanly Bruno, but when. Bruno is a 5-1 against chance.

Tyson, 35-0, has stopped 17 opponents in the first round and five in the second round. Only four opponents have lasted the distance against the 22-year-old American — James Tillis, Mitch Green, Tony Tucker and James "Bonecrusher" Smith.



Tyson: has stopped 17 opponents in first round

But Smith, dubbed "Bonecrusher" by some people for hanging on to Tyson for 12 rounds in 1987, stopped Bruno in the 10th round in 1984.

Bruno, 32-2, says he has matured as a fighter since then and since Tim Witherspoon stopped the Briton in the 11th round in 1986.

That may be, but Bruno, 27, still appears to suffer from a lack

of mobility, which has hampered many British heavyweights since Britain had its last heavyweight champion when in 1897 Bob Fitzsimmons knocked out James J. Corbett.

Even for a big man, Bruno is slow and in training sessions recently has had trouble landing his jab against journeyman sparring partners. If Bruno is to keep Tyson away from him he has to

Karpov wins

LINARES, Spain, Feb. 24, (Reuter): Former world champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union beat compatriot Artur Yusupov in the fourth round of an international chess tournament here yesterday.

Karpov won with an English opening after 42 moves.

The leading player, Vasily Ivanchuk of the Soviet Union, drew against Boris Gulkov of the United States after 24 moves in a Ruy Lopez opening. Jan Timman of the Netherlands drew against Britain's Nigel Short after 40 moves in a French defence.

Lajos Portish of Hungary adjourned against Alexander Beliavsky of the Soviet Union and Johan Hjartarson of Iceland adjourned against A. Sokolov.



Bruno: says he has matured since his last defeat

rely on the jab with its 28-cm advantage in reach.

Bruno at 1.90 m, is nine centimetres taller than Tyson. But the champion often has fought taller men without difficulty.

Bruno's trainer, Terry Lawless, likes to say that the proof of Bruno's power is that several of his sparring partners left camp because they could not take the pounding from his fighter.

Green challenges Tyson

NEW YORK, Feb. 24, (AP): Heavyweight boxer Mitch "Blood" Green pleaded innocent yesterday to drug and drunken driving charges, then stripped to the waist, flexed his muscles and challenged heavyweight champion Mike Tyson to a fight.

"I got him scared to death of me," Green declared.

Green, 31, was arrested Dec 30 after he smashed his 1979 Lincoln Continental into two parked cars at a Harlem street corner.

The accident occurred less than a mile from the site of Green's 4:30 am street scuffle with Tyson on Aug. 23. During that altercation, Tyson fractured his right hand when he threw a punch that opened a gash between the eyes of Green, whom he had previously beaten in the ring.

Green, who needed stitches for the gash, filed a criminal complaint against Tyson. He dropped the charges after Tyson

promised him a bout if Green would get himself together and win some preliminary fights.

On the latest charge, state supreme court justice Carol Berkman set bail at \$2,000 cash and gave Green until March 1 to post it. She also scheduled a hearing for that date.

The judge seemed reluctant to release Green. She cited four prior arrests for impaired driving and noted that he had failed to appear in court as scheduled on Jan. 8 and 19 for hearings on pending charges.

She read a report which said when Green was arrested, he was sitting in the driver's seat of his car with the motor and the lights on, he smelled of alcohol, and police found on him a cigarette laced with PCP (phencyclidine).

Green came to court wearing a double-breasted blue suit, no shirt, and white patent leather shoes, with about 10 gold chains with small gold boxing gloves around his neck.

Tyson's recent divorce, his feud with his manager and losing some 23 kg in a relatively short time may come back to haunt him in the fight.

Lawless also says the absence from Tyson's corner of Kevin Rooney — his recently dismissed, long-time trainer — may hurt Tyson if he becomes confused during the fight.

But Tyson has shown remarkable concentration for the job at hand. He was also beset by personal problems when he finished off Michael Spinks in just 91 seconds of the first round last June.

Known

Lawless says he has warned Bruno to expect a dirty fight from Tyson, who has been known to use his forearms, elbows and head against an opponent. He says Bruno will retaliate in kind.

But against Tyson forewarned is not necessarily forearmed. ● Meanwhile, Tyson and Sugar Ray Leonard were honoured at a luncheon yesterday at the World Boxing Council co-fighters of the year for 1988.

"I watched him (Leonard) win the title when I was 12 years old," Tyson said.

"It's an honour to be on the dais with him."

Leonard, the only fighter to win world titles in five weight classes, will defend the WBC super middleweight title against Thomas Hearns on June 12 at Caesars Palace.

SPORTS BRIEFS

World record

LONDON, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Daniela Hunger of East Germany beat her own world best short-course time for the 100 metres individual medley in the final meeting of the World Cup swimming series today. Hunger clocked one minute 03.17 seconds to beat the previous mark of 1:03.24 she set in Bonn on February 11.

Iran triumph

BANGKOK, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Iran, using their superior physical strength and a solid defence, overwhelmed Thailand 3-0 in a World Cup East Asian section first round qualifying match yesterday.

Brazil squad

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Brazil's new soccer manager Sebastiao Lazaroni on Wednesday named a squad of 23 players, from which he left out all the European exiles, for a series of friendly internationals.

Werder criticised

BREMEN, West Germany, Feb. 24. (Reuters): West German soccer champions Werder Bremen came under heavy fire from other Bundesliga clubs yesterday over a plan to attract more fans by selling tickets at reduced prices.

Goalkeeper punished

VIENNA, Feb. 24. (UPI): Goalkeeper Franz Wohlfiel has been left out of the Austrian training squad for the March 25 friendly soccer international against Italy as punishment for an incident during the traditional winter "Stadthalle" tournament.

Lloyd Honeyghan

LAS VEGAS, Feb. 24. (Reuters): British boxer Lloyd Honeyghan is unlikely to receive harsh punishment from Nevada boxing officials for testing positive for a pain-killing drug the night he lost his welterweight title earlier this month, a Nevada official indicated yesterday.

Paul Gascoigne

LONDON, Feb. 24. (UPI): Tottenham's Paul Gascoigne was found guilty but escaped with a warning when he appeared before the Football Association yesterday charged with bringing the game into disrepute. Gascoigne was charged over comments he made about his former club, Newcastle.

Jamila wins

JAMILA AL MUTAWA, on Pedrona, won the Main Senior Class event in the Sheikh Mohammed Mubarak Al Sabah Cup show jumping competition at the Hunting & Equestrian Club on Thursday.

Results

Main Senior Class:
1st Pedrona -- Jamila Al Mutawa
2nd Rockford -- Hisham Hatab
3rd Kuwait Bibi -- Jamila
4th Fandango -- Jamila
5th Hoodumit -- Juliet Bosel

Small Open Class

1st Goldfinger -- Mohammed Mahdi
2nd Ardri -- Jamila Al Mutawa
3rd Ashwa -- Jamila
4th Brigadier B -- Hisham Hatab

NBA games

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played yesterday.

United edge Bournemouth for quarterfinals

MANCHESTER, England, Feb. 24. (Agencies): Brian McClair scored his seventh goal in as many games to give Manchester United a 1-0 victory over Bournemouth and a place in the quarterfinals of the English Football Association Cup on Wednesday night.

England select Phelan for qualifier

LONDON, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Norwich captain Michael Phelan was picked today for England's World Cup European Group Two soccer qualifier against Albania in Tirana on March 8.

Zamalek and Al Ahli draw

CAIRO, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Cairo's city rivals Al Ahli and Zamalek, among Africa's soccer aristocrats, drew 0-0 today in an Egyptian First Division League match.

Soccer League seeks massive damages

PISA, Italy, Feb. 24. (Reuters): A second-half goal from captain Giuseppe Bergomi earned Italy a 1-0 win against Denmark in an international soccer friendly marred by fouls and bookings on Wednesday.

PAKISTAN TAKE CONTROL OF 3RD TEST AGAINST NEW ZEALAND

Miandad and Shoaib slam unbeaten tons

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb. 24. (Reuters): A brilliant unbeaten partnership between Javed Miandad and Shoaib Mohammed put Pakistan in a commanding position at the close of the first day in the third and deciding Test against New Zealand today.

Pakistan were 289 for two wickets after the pair put on 245 to best their own 220-run third wicket partnership in the previous Test against New Zealand in Wellington.

Both batsmen scored successive Test centuries. Miandad's 21st and Shoaib's third. Miandad was not out 154 and Shoaib not out 110.

It was a record partnership for the third wicket in matches between New Zealand and Pakistan. The previous record was their Wellington score.

Notched

The difference between the pair's batting on the flat and grassless Eden Park pitch in Auckland and their innings in Wellington could not have been more stark.

In Wellington they notched up 220 in six hours while in Auckland they amassed the runs in under four in dashing style. The pair came together with Pakistan in some trouble at 44 for two, but Miandad attacked the moment he arrived at the crease.

His innings was a delight — driving and cutting, running aggressively between wickets and using his feet to get to the



Miandad: gets his 21st century

spinners. Miandad reinforced his claim to be the best batsman in Test cricket today — this was his sixth century in his last eight matches.

Shoaib was unrecognisable from the batsman in Wellington who scored Test cricket's slowest 150. He pulled and drove determinedly and was equally quick

between wickets.

He made his century in 290 minutes off 214 balls. Miandad took 176 minutes off 150 balls.

Miandad celebrated the 200 partnership mark by thrashing the luckless John Bracewell for three fours in as many balls. New Zealand achieved their only success in the first hour.



Shoaib: got his ton off 214 balls

Richard Hadlee trapped Mudassar Nazar leg before wicket for five and left-arm spinner Stephen Bock had Rizwan-Zaman caught by Jeff Crowe at first slip for 15.

Hadlee's wicket was his 396th in Tests and he was unlucky not to get a couple more. John Wright dropped Rizwan and

Hadlee himself spilled a difficult caught-and-bowled chance off Miandad on 66.

The first Test was abandoned because of rain. The second Test was drawn.

Meanwhile, Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan yesterday denied radio reports he planned to retire from Test cricket after

the third cricket Test.

Auckland radio stations reported Imran, 36, would be playing his final international.

The player told the New Zealand Press Association he had no problems motivating himself for Test cricket and had no immediate plans to retire.

"I won't retire," he said.

"Once I decide to stop I'll just fade out, but I always treat every series as my last."

"I only make myself available series to series, and I never plan too far ahead."

With 340 Test wickets and 2931 runs to his name, Imran has the ability to continue at top level for a number of years but said he was frustrated not playing top-class cricket for much of the year.

"To stay in Test cricket I have to keep playing," he said.

"Tests are fine. If there were Tests from now until next year I'd keep playing."

"But we have no serious cricket from March until November."

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN first innings:
Mudassar Nazar lbw Hadlee 5
Rizwan-Zaman c J. Crowe b Bock 15
Shoaib Mohammed not out 110
Javed Miandad not out 154
Extras (nb-1 lb-4) 5
Total (for two wickets) 289
Fall of wickets: 1-16 (2-44)
To test: Salim Malik, Imran Khan, Aamer Malik, Salim Yousuf, Abdul Qadir, Salim Jaffer, Taseef Ahmed.
Bowling: Hadlee 22-5-58-1 (1-ab), Chatfield 23-7-44-0, Bock 24-2-89-1, Bracewell 21-4-78-0, Jones 3-8-16-0.

Soccer League seeks massive damages

Italy outlast Denmark in friendly

PISA, Italy, Feb. 24. (Reuters): A second-half goal from captain Giuseppe Bergomi earned Italy a 1-0 win against Denmark in an international soccer friendly marred by fouls and bookings on Wednesday.

The international defender scored for the 1990 World Cup hosts 16 minutes into the second half when he used his thigh to brush in the ball indirectly free-kicked by Giuseppe Giannini.

Denmark came closest to a draw in the 72nd minute when midfielder Jan Molby blasted a free kick from just outside the area to force a lightning save from goalkeeper Walter Zenga.

Four players were booked by Austrian referee Horst Brummel — Molby and Italians Gianluca Vialli, Franco Baresi and Paolo Maldini — in a game stopped 44 times for fouls.

The Danes, rebuilding their team with hopes of qualifying for

the 1990 finals, had been judged an easy touch for the Italians after a poor showing earlier this month in a four-nation tournament in Malta.

But they turned out tougher than expected and, though the Italian defence proved solid, the game showed manager Azzeglio Vicini still needs to sort out his attack.

Giannini broke through the Danish defence after 10 minutes and looked like he was brought down by goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel in an incident that appeared to go unnoticed by the referee.

Molby, of English champions Liverpool, was playing in the Danish squad after a five-month absence, during which he spent six weeks in jail for reckless driving.

He and striker Brian Laudrup, earning his first cap on his 20th birthday, were among the most

incisive on the Danish side.

Teams:

Italy — Walter Zenga, Giuseppe Bergomi, Paolo Maldini, Franco Baresi, Riccardo Ferri (Ciro Ferrara, 46th minute), Nicola Berti, Roberto Donadoni (Massimo Crippa, 68th), Fernando de Napoli, Gianluca Vialli (Stefano Borgonova, 74th), Giuseppe Giannini, Aldo Serena.

Denmark — Peter Schmeichel, John Larsen (Bjorn Kristensen, 82nd), Kent Nielsen, Lars Olsen, Kim Vilfort (John Helt, 76th), John Jensen (Henrik Larsen, 70th), Jan Molby, Jan Heintze, Jan Bartram, Flemming Poulsen, Brian Laudrup.

Meanwhile, Italy's Soccer League has asked for \$30 million to compensate for lost income caused by work on stadiums for the 1990 World Cup finals.

League president Luciano Nizzola told reporters on Wed-

nesday he had asked the Italian Soccer Federation and Olympic Committee, which manages Rome's Olympic stadium, for preliminary damages. He said the figure did not include expected losses for next season.

Stadiums in 10 of the 12 cities which will stage World Cup matches are being upgraded, leading to loss of gate receipts for the first and second division clubs who play there.

Vacate

First Division Roma and Lazio, who both play in the Olympic stadium where the final will be staged, have already been told they must vacate it for most of next season.

"All the clubs have suffered damages to various extents, those who play at home in stadiums where work is going on and those who go to play there because their cut of the takings has gone down," Nizzola said.

England select Phelan for qualifier

LONDON, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Norwich captain Michael Phelan was picked today for England's World Cup European Group Two soccer qualifier against Albania in Tirana on March 8.

Phelan's first international call follows his outstanding club form which has helped Norwich challenge for the First Division title and reach the last eight of the FA Cup.

Midfielder Phelan replaces Arsenal's Paul Davis.

The only other surprise in manager Bobby Robson's 23-strong squad is the inclusion of Chelsea's Dave Beasant as the third string goalkeeper behind Peter Shilton and David

Seaman.

Chris Woods, Shilton's usual understudy, missed England's recent friendly matches against Saudi Arabia and Greece because of a virus but was back in action for his club Glasgow Rangers last weekend.

England drew 0-0 at home to Sweden last December in their only group match so far while Albania have lost both their games.

Defeat for England would put even more pressure on Robson, who has been fiercely criticised for some time in certain sections of the media.

Squad Peter Shilton, Dave Beasant,

David Seaman, Gary Stevens, Terry Butcher, Des Walker, Tony Adams, Ian Snodin, Stuart Pearce, Tony Dorigo, Paul Parker, Neil Webb, Bryan Robson, Steve Hodge, Paul Gascoigne, Michael Phelan, David Rocastle Alan Smith, Gary Linaker, John Barnes, Chris Waddle, Peter Beardsley, Tony Cottee.

Robson said: "Phelan is having a very good season. He has given a string of solid performances all the way through and he is a very mature player."

"He has been one of the architects of that Norwich side which is playing very good football."

Zamalek and Al Ahli draw

CAIRO, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Cairo's city rivals Al Ahli and Zamalek, among Africa's soccer aristocrats, drew 0-0 today in an Egyptian First Division League match.

The two sides, whose clashes have traditionally been something of a local derby in soccer-crazy Egypt, failed to produce the form that won them seven African club titles since 1980 in their violence-ridden encounter.

A near-capacity crowd of 60,000 spectators saw the match in Cairo's stadium, while millions stayed glued to their radio and television sets to follow the live coverage.



ZURICH, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Sweden as hosts and the Netherlands if they qualify will be seeded at the head of two four-team groups in the 1992 European Soccer Championship finals, the European Football Union (UEFA) said on Wednesday.

If the Dutch title-holders fail to survive the qualifying tournament their seeded place will go to the team with the best performance in the preliminary rounds for both the European Championship and the 1990 World Cup.

Decisions

UEFA's organising committee for the European Championship took these decisions at a meeting here which also approved a match programme for the final series drawn up by the Swedish Football Association.

The eight finalists will be divided into two groups of four,

with the top two teams in each going on to the semifinals.

Sweden was allocated to Group One which will play their matches in Stockholm and Malmö. Group Two, headed by the Netherlands or their replacement, will play their games in Gothenburg and Norrköping.

The tournament will run from June 10 to 26, one day longer than the 1988 competition in West Germany in order to give the finalists a three-day rest before they meet in Gothenburg on June 26.

All except Liechtenstein of UEFA's 35 member countries have entered for the qualifying competition, the draw for which will be made in Stockholm on Feb. 2, 1990.

Teams will be split into seven groups with the winner of each joining Sweden in the final series. Qualifying matches must be completed by the end of 1991.

Alderman breaks Lillee's state record for wickets

SYDNEY, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Terry Alderman broke Dennis Lillee's record of first-class wickets for Western Australia today when he trapped Queensland batsman Peter Clifford lbw on the first day of their four-day Sheffield Shield cricket match.

Alderman took one for 47 in Queensland's total of 200 for eight to give him 352 state wickets at an average of 22.42. Lillee, Australia's leading Test wicket taker, captured 351 wickets at 23.02.

In Melbourne, skipper David Hookes hit 100 in a session for the eighth time as South Australia compiled 510 in their first innings on the third day of their match against Victoria.

Hookes, 24 not out overnight, took his total to 133, hitting 16 fours and a six from 77 deliveries. His second 50 took just 35 balls.

Closed At the close Victoria, who scored 284 in their first innings, were 75 for one in their second innings.

In Sydney, Tasmania were fighting hard to avoid defeat at the close of the third day of their match against New South Wales.

New South Wales declared their second innings closed at 253 for four, with former Test opener John Dyson hitting 112 not out. Tasmania, exactly 100 behind on the first innings, were 46 for no wicket at the close.

Yesterday Test pace bowler Geoff Lawson took his tally of first-class wickets past 500 on the second day of the match against New South Wales.

The New South Wales skipper took six for 36 in 19.1 fiery overs to send Tasmania tumbling to 153 all out in reply to the home side's 278.

Results

In Sydney (third day): New South Wales 278 and 253 for four declared (J. Dyson 112 not out, M. Waugh 85) Tasmania 153 and 46 for no wicket.

In Melbourne (third day): Victoria 284 and 75 for one South Australia 510 (D. Hookes 133, D. Lehmann 87, A. Dodemaide five for 94).

In Perth (first day): Queensland 200 for eight (G. Ritchie 71) v Western Australia.

Sidhu faces no visa problems, says official

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Indian batsman Navjot Singh Sidhu, who faces a charge of culpable homicide, has not been denied visas to enter some Caribbean countries during a forthcoming tour, a West Indian cricket official said today.

"From our end, there's no truth in the matter," West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) secretary Steve Comacho said.

He was responding to a report from New Delhi yesterday in which India's cricket board were said to be seeking the WICBC's aid in obtaining visas for Sidhu because he had been refused entry to some nations.

"We have not been in touch with the Indian board. Visas have been issued for the 19 (Indian squad members) where applicable," Comacho said.

A Punjab court today extended Sidhu's bail, enabling him to leave tomorrow for India's tour of West Indies. The court extended Sidhu's bail until May 10.

The 25-year-old batsman and a friend are alleged to have beaten to death a motorist after a road accident. Both are currently free on bail on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

India are due in the Caribbean on Sunday for an itinerary including four Tests and five one-day internationals.

Bilardo plans busy programme

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Argentina's soccer coach Carlos Bilardo is planning a busy programme of matches next year shortly before his team open their World Cup defence at the finals in Italy.

Bilardo said Argentina would play Austria, Switzerland and Israel, in that order, in a pre-World Cup tour in May, 1990, before setting up camp in Italy.

"The matches with Austria and Switzerland are practically settled and we're trying to get Israel for around May 10," Bilardo said.

He said Argentina would arrive in Italy in the second half of May for the World Cup finals starting on June 8.



Sanchez scored twice for Real

Real outclass Sporting

MADRID, Feb. 24. (Reuters): Real Madrid avenged a shock 5-5 first leg draw and thrashed Sporting Gijon 5-2 in the second leg of their Spanish Soccer Cup second round tie on Wednesday to go through to the quarter-finals with a 10-7 aggregate win.

Real's home win ended an extraordinary 10-day, three-match battle against Sporting which produced 23 goals.

Real had beaten Sporting 5-1 in a League game at home on Feb 12, suffered the indignity of the 5-5 draw in the Cup tie three days later and were determined not to let the fans down in the home tie this week.

Real began to take over after half-time, with the score 1-1 after goals from Real's Bernd Schuster and Sporting's Joaquin Alonso. Mexican Hugo Sanchez scored twice, Sebastian Losada added another and Michel Gon-

zalez knocked home a pass two minutes from the end.

Sporting's second goal came from an error by veteran Real defender Ricardo Gallego who put the ball in his own net trying to stop a pass from Moises Rodriguez.

Real's closest rivals Barcelona meanwhile scored an uphill victory against Second Division Racing Santander, adding a 3-2 win at home to a 1-0 victory in the first leg.

Scored

Francisco Carrasco, Ernesto Valverde and Roberto Fernandez scored for Barcelona while Julian Gomez scored twice for the visitors.

Atletico Madrid beat Espanol 3-0 on aggregate, with goals from Manolo Sanchez, Roberto Marina and Tomas Renones in their home leg after a goalless draw in the first leg.